



Royal Burgh of Kirkcaldy

ANNUAL REPORT

of the
Medical Officer
of Health
and the
Sanitary Inspector
for the
Year 1972

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
TOWN HOUSE,

KIRKCALDY.

April, 1974

To the PROVOST, MAGISTRATES AND TOWN COUNCILLORS
OF THE ROYAL BURGH OF KIRKCALDY

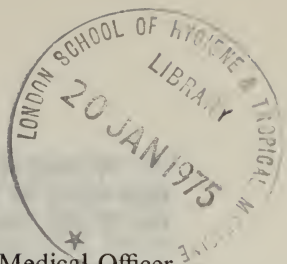
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report on the health of
the Burgh for the year 1972.

FREDERICK S. MELVILLE

Medical Officer of Health

INTRODUCTION



This report marks the end of a long era. The first Medical Officer of Health appointed in Great Britain was in Liverpool in 1847 and by the end of the 19th century all towns of reasonable size had similar posts. Kirkcaldy's first Medical Officer of Health took up his appointment sometime in the early 1890's although the first extant Annual Report seems to be that of 1902.

On the 1st April 1974 the role of Medical Officer of Health ceases to exist throughout Great Britain. In the future the Local Authorities will look to the Area Health Board for medical advice. In order to cover the Statutory duties under various Acts of Parliament the Area Health Boards will be required to allot to the local authorities suitably qualified Medical Practitioners who will be known as "Designated Medical Officers".

Over the last 130 or so years there have been many many changes in Health and Social Welfare almost without exception for the better. Not all these changes by any manner of means have been due to the local authority health departments but a large proportion of the improvements have been to a greater or lesser extent due to the efforts of successive generations of Medical Officers of Health and Sanitary Inspectors in bringing to light, by epidemiological studies and publications of statistical evidence in their annual reports, the root causes of ill-health and social deprivation. This can be demonstrated by looking at the early reports of the first Medical Officer of Health of Kirkcaldy and the state of the burgh in the early years of this century.

In 1902 the population of Kirkcaldy was 34,079. Births numbered 985, a rate of 28.5 per thousand of the population and infant deaths numbering 95, equivalent to an Infant Mortality Rate of 96.5 per thousand. In 1972 the population was 48,871. Births numbered 665, a rate of 13.3 per thousand of the population and infant deaths numbered 21, equivalent to a rate of 32 per thousand live births. This last figure, which would have been incredible in 1902, is a disappointing one for 1972 and the worst for 17 years.

In 1902 there were some 183 cases suffering from serious infectious diseases – smallpox, cholera, diphtheria, erysipelas and scarlet fever and typhoid, of whom 28 died. In 1972 there were 17 from the same range of cases, none of whom died. Diphtheria, an epidemic disease in those early years of the century, has now all but disappeared, thanks to a continuing programme of immunisation since the 1940's. No case has been notified in Kirkcaldy for over 20 years.

Tuberculosis, a disease of poverty, overcrowding and malnutrition, claimed 100 deaths in 1902 – no deaths in 1972.

A word of warning, however, about Tuberculosis, for it still, more than many of the infectious diseases, needs the constant vigilance of the "Public Health" Service.

In 1902 the Medical Officer of Health was rightly proud of the advances made in Kirkcaldy during the latter half of the 19th century. Already many overcrowded and insanitary tenements had been removed although many more remained whose sanitation was that of the 19th century and not the 20th. Great efforts were then being made to build proper sewers and drains. The Medical Officer of Health protested at that time about the pollution of the foreshore and perhaps in this respect we still have not made very much advance.

At the beginning of this century the sanitarians were concerned about the health of the school child, the conditions of the working population, at work and at home, but had not made much progress towards improvement in these fields.

Advances made, slowly by the end of the 19th century, reasonably rapidly in the first 40 years of this century and very rapidly in the period since the war in all aspects of Public Health including such major ones as Housing, prevention of infectious disease, hygiene of food premises, improvement of household sanitation, reduction of pollution of the atmosphere have been achieved by the close collaboration established between the Medical Officer of Health and the Sanitary Inspector and the encouragement and enthusiasm from the local health committee. Over these years Kirkcaldy can be justly proud. Great advances have been made since the first war in the care of mothers and young children and the development of the School Health Service; notably the first clinic, still an excellent functioning unit, at Loughborough Road, the Maternity Hospital at Forth Park opened by the Burgh in 1935, the first Domiciliary Maternity Scheme in Scotland under the Maternity Services (Scotland) Act 1937 and the School Medical Services which made such an impact on the health of school children after the first war.

It was in no small measure the influence and pressure brought to bear by the Burgh Council which brought about the provision of a modern new General Hospital at the Victoria and the Council developed Domiciliary Nursing Services, and Welfare Services (since taken over by the Social Work Department of Home Helps, Meals on Wheels, Old People's Homes, Luncheon Clubs), always in advance of the current opinions of each decade.

Steady progress has been made and many aspects of health have been improved beyond measure but in spite of all these improvements there are still many problems – a good few no doubt always will be there – but now highlighted because others have been resolved, for instance the problems of degenerative disease in an ageing population, Cardio-vascular Disease, Cancer, Rheumatism, Diabetes. The treatment of these takes up a large proportion of the money and time of the Health Services. Methods of Prevention certainly exercise the minds of the

health teams because they know some of these diseases are preventable but only if the individual citizen is prepared to make the efforts himself, examples being the smoker and lung cancer, the smoker and cardio vascular disease, the attendant ills and premature disease that follow obesity. Prevention is not spectacular but prevention makes demands on the recipients as well as those giving advice.

It is earnestly hoped that the steady progress described briefly above will continue after reorganisation. Integration and rationalisation is highly desirable to husband, probably in real money terms, dwindling resources but the important thing to realise is that prevention is always cheaper than cure and there is a real danger that the so-called integration becomes rather an absorption of the preventive services into the much larger, in terms of finance, aspect of the hospital and hence curative-biased services.

The individual seems to expect to do nothing for himself till he is ill and then expects to be the passive recipient of a treatment that will cure him and the fear is that the public in the same way will expect the new Health Boards to cope with "sickness" rather than with "health".

Abuse of alcohol has long been a major problem in Scotland but abuse of other drugs is also a growing one, although not perhaps as important yet as alcoholism. The Fife Drug Liaison Committee continues to discuss this and co-operate with the Police and Home & Health Department and with all the involved bodies, education authorities, social work departments, student health services etc., but the answer is not contained in discussing the narrow field of drug-taking but in the universal field of human relations, purpose in life and fulfillment gained in society rather than against society.

As this is being written in the early months of 1974 and no report will be written for 1973 and the first three months of 1974, it would be appropriate to add a few remarks on the final complete year of the working of the health department of the Burgh of Kirkcaldy.

During 1973 several important landmarks were passed. The Health Visitors had been "attached" to General Practitioners several years ago but, mainly because of certain logistic and not medical reasons, the same had not been done in the Domiciliary Nursing field. It became increasingly important, particularly in the field of the care of the old, an ever-increasing problem, that the medical aspects must outweigh the logistical and the decision was taken to attach District Nurses to General Practitioners. Even by the end of 1973 after a month or two's working it was obvious that, although mileage payments and staff time had increased, the service was able to give more real help to the patients.

At long last the building of the Health Centre at Whyteman's Brae started although in these difficult times it is quite clear that it will not be in commission till well into 1975 at the very earliest.

During 1972 the Home Help Service was taken over by the Department of Social Work.

With the retiral of Miss Milne, the chief clerk in the department, and Miss Cullen, the Director of Nursing Services in 1973 the department said farewell to two ladies who had given very valuable service to the town unstintingly and very efficiently over many years and I must record my very grateful thanks to them for their help and loyalty.

This final introduction to the last report is being written at the beginning of 1974 mainly because the whole Health Department have been trying during the last year to do their allotted normal tasks and in addition plan and discuss both internally and with other departments of Kirkcaldy Burgh and also with many outside bodies and other authorities the new Health Service and Local Government Service and I cannot express fully enough the help I have had from all the staff in this very difficult, frustrating and insecure working year. Finally, I would thank the Convener, Health Committee and the Council for all the support and encouragement they have continued to give me and this department.

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STAFF

DESIGNATION	OFFICER	QUALIFICATION
Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer	Frederick S. Melville	M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., M.F.C.M.
Depute Medical Officer of Health	James A. Petrie M.C.,	M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., M.F.C.M.
Assistant Medical Officer of Health	Agnes C. D. Penman	M.B., Ch.B., D.R.C.O.G.
Dental Officers	Rachel I. Mears	L.D.S.
	(Retired 7/5/72)	
	S. D. Neale	L.D.S.
	(Appointed 5/10/72)	
	John W. McConnachie	L.D.S.
	Mrs. A. Wright	L.D.S.
	(part-time)	
Superintendent of Nurses (Director of Nursing Services as from 15/9/72)	Rachel R. Cullen	R.F.N., R.G.N., S.C.M., Q.N., H.V.
Health Visitors	Miss M. Cairns	R.G.N., S.C.M., H.V.
	Miss D. M. Cairns	R.G.N., S.C.M., H.V., N.N.E.B.
	Mrs. M. S. Campbell	R.G.N., S.C.M., H.V.
	Mrs. E. Drysdale	R.F.N., R.G.N., S.C.M., H.V.
	(Appointed 17/4/72)	
	Mrs. I. J. Hale	R.F.N., R.G.N., S.C.M., H.V.
	(Retired 3/6/72)	
	Mrs. A. Harper	R.G.N., S.C.M., H.V.
	Mrs. M. L. Millsap	R.G.N., S.C.M., H.V.
	Miss M. Ross	S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N., H.V.
	(Appointed 19/6/72)	
	Miss B. Scott	R.F.N., R.G.N., S.C.M., S.R.M.N., H.V.
	Mrs. J. Snodgrass	S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.
	Miss J. Stewart	R.G.N., S.C.M., H.V.
	Miss A. Whyte	R.G.N., Obstet. Course
	(Resigned 24/9/72)	
	Miss B. Williamson	R.G.N., S.C.M., Q.N., H.V.
	Mrs. C. Wood	R.G.N., S.C.M., H.V.
Medico-Social Worker	Agnes C. Bowman	R.F.N., R.G.N., S.C.M., H.V.
District Nurses	Mrs. M. F. F. Coumbis	R.G.N., S.C.M.
	Mrs. A. M. Givens	R.G.N.
	Mrs. M. McGrath	R.F.N., R.G.N., S.C.M.
	Miss J. McGown	R.G.N., S.C.M., Q.N.
	Mrs. E. T. McQuade	S.R.N., S.C.M.
	(Appointed 1/8/72)	
	Miss I. Peggie	R.G.N.
	Mrs. F. M. Robertson	R.F.N., R.G.N., S.C.M., Q.N.
	Mrs. D. Turnbull	R.G.N.
	Mrs. M. L. Welsh	R.G.N., S.C.M.
	Miss P. Walker	R.G.N., S.C.M.

State Enrolled Nurses	Mrs. E. McGrory Mrs. W. G. Fairful Mrs. J. McAlinden Mrs. D. Ritchie	S.E.N. S.E.N. S.E.N. S.E.N.
Clinic Nurses	Mrs. J. King Mrs. C. L. McMillan	R.G.N. R.G.N., S.C.M., S.R.M.N.
Physiotherapist	Mr. R. Walsh (Resigned 26/5/72) Mrs. A. Shaw (Appointed 3/1/72) Mrs. C. McDonald (Resigned 17/3/72) Mrs. G. M. McFadyen (Part-time) (Appointed 20/3/72)	M.C.S.P. M.C.S.P.
Chiropodists	Mr. Richard Forbes Mrs. M. J. F. Grieve	M.Ch.S., S.R.Ch. M.Ch.S., S.R.Ch.
Home Help Organiser	Mrs. J. Walker	
Consultant Oculist	J. Burns-Brown	M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.O.M.S.

CLINICS

Tuberculosis and V.D. Dispensaries	Victoria Hospital
Child Welfare; Ante-Natal; Dental; Eye; U.V.R.; Relaxation; Immunisation; Family Planning Clinics	Loughborough Road
Dental	Glebe Park
Child Welfare; Ante-Natal; Dental; Relaxation; Diagnostic; Immunisation; Hearing Clinic	Fair Isle Road
Child Welfare; Immunisation Clinics	Alison Street
Child Welfare; Chiropody Clinics; Immunisation	Hayfield Road

WATERBURY PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT VITAL STATISTICS

VITAL STATISTICS

VITAL STATISTICS	
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COMPARATIVE ANNUAL NUMBER AND RATES OF BIRTHS AND DEATHS

Year	Popu- lation	Births		Infant Deaths		Maternal Deaths			Total Deaths	Death Rate per 1,000 Popu- lation
		No.	Rate per 1,000 Total Popu- lation	No.	Infant Mort- ality	Puer- peral Fever	Other	Rate per 1,000 Births		
1930	43,796	789	18.0	47	60	1	5	7.6	537	12.3
1	43,904	757	17.2	42	55	4	5	11.9	545	12.4
2	44,170	743	16.8	53	71	2	7	12.1	576	13.0
3	44,622	729	16.3	65	89	3	2	6.9	579	13.0
4	44,565	728	16.3	44	60	1	5	8.2	587	13.2
5	44,622	704	15.8	45	64	1	1	3.0	540	12.1
6	44,740	686	15.3	53	77	2	1	4.4	551	12.5
7	44,947	715	15.9	48	67	2	6	11.2	553	12.3
8	45,421	764	16.8	41	54	1	5	7.9	552	12.2
9	46,579	758	16.3	51	67	—	3	4.0	590	12.7
1940	44,660	682	14.5	44	65	—	6	8.8	632	14.2
1	44,100	722	15.1	40	55	—	5	6.9	542	12.3
2	43,300	736	15.4	48	65	—	7	9.5	551	12.7
3	42,367	767	16.1	35	46	—	2	2.6	564	13.3
4	42,461	823	17.1	29	35	—	3	3.6	551	13.0
5	42,929	697	14.5	28	40	—	3	4.3	530	12.3
6	45,656	964	20.1	44	46	—	—	—	578	12.7
7	47,897	1,102	23.0	58	53	—	4	3.6	631	13.2
8	48,671	980	20.1	33	34	—	3	3.0	573	11.8
9	49,000	887	18.1	47	53	—	1	1.1	592	12.1
1950	49,425	896	18.1	37	41	—	2	1.1	672	13.6
1	49,230	923	18.7	33	36	—	—	—	645	13.1
2	49,424	810	16.4	31	38	—	1	1.2	588	11.9
3	50,119	840	16.8	24	29	—	—	—	535	10.7
4	50,520	938	18.6	24	26	—	2	2.13	624	12.4
5	51,093	856	16.8	27	32	—	1	1.2	553	10.8
6	51,475	901	17.5	23	26	—	—	—	551	10.7
7	51,825	946	18.3	22	23	—	—	—	564	10.9
8	52,061	1,017	19.5	20	20	—	1	0.98	524	10.1
9	52,407	958	18.3	15	16	—	—	—	568	10.8
1960	52,515	874	16.6	14	16	—	—	—	520	9.9
1	52,644	981	18.6	21	21	—	—	—	597	11.3
2	52,697	967	18.4	24	25	—	—	—	551	10.5
3	52,638	942	17.9	15	16	—	—	—	612	11.6
4	51,996	848	16.3	19	22	—	—	—	609	11.7
5	51,917	923	17.8	19	21	—	—	—	584	11.2
6	51,886	875	16.9	15	17	—	—	—	601	11.6
7	52,102	917	17.6	19	21	—	—	—	559	10.7
8	52,125	913	17.5	17	18	—	1	1.0	551	10.6
9	52,097	869	16.7	16	18	—	—	—	652	12.5
1970	52,075	769	14.8	15	20	—	—	—	608	11.7
1	50,091	806	16.1	23	29	—	—	—	579	11.6
2	49,871	665	13.3	21	32	—	1	1.0	624	12.5

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Population (Registrar General's mid-year estimate 1972) 49,900

	Male	Female	Total	Kirkcaldy	Scotland
Live Births	306	359	665		
Birth Rate (Births per 1,000 population)	—	—	—	13.3	15.1
Illegitimate Births	38	31	69		
Percentage illegitimate per 100 live-births	—	—	—	10.4	8.5
Deaths of Infants under one year	9	12	21		
Infant Mortality Rate (Deaths per 1,000 live-births)	—	—	—	32	19
Number of Still-births	12	5	17		
Still-birth Rate (Still-births per 1,000 live and still-births)	—	—	—	25	13.2
Neonatal Deaths (Infants dying under one month)	4	11	15		
Neonatal Death Rate (Infants dying under one month per 1,000 live births)	—	—	—	23	12.4
Perinatal Deaths (Still-births and those dying in first week of life)	15	14	29		
Perinatal Death Rates (Still-births and those dying in first week per 1,000 live and still- births)	—	—	—	42.5	23.7
Marriages			539		
Marriage Rate				10.8	8.1
Deaths (all ages)	321	303	624		
Death Rate per 1,000 population				12.5	12.5
Maternal Deaths	—	1	1		
Maternal Death Rate per 1,000 total live and still-births	—	—	—	1.5	
Deaths from Malignant Neoplasms	84	52	136		
Percentage of total deaths	—	—	—	21.8	24.8
Deaths from Tuberculosis (pulmonary and non-pulmonary)	—	—	—		
Death Rate Tuberculosis per 1,000 population	2	—	2	0.04	0.04
Deaths from accidents in the home	3	7	10		
Death Rate per 1,000 population	—	—	—	0.20	
Deaths from Road Accidents	3	3	6		
Death Rate per 1,000 population	—	—	—	0.12	
Area of Burgh				5,738 acres	
Number of inhabited houses in Burgh (as at 16/5/72)				17,503	
Rateable Value (as at 16/5/72)				£2,996,062	

Cost of services administered by Health Committee

(N.H.S. (Scotland) Act 1947)

(Financial Year 1972-73)

Expenditure	£118,232
Income	6,752
Net Cost	111,480

Cost of Public Health Services administered by Health Committee

Expenditure	34,559
Income	780
Net Cost	33,779

POPULATION

The Registrar General's estimate of the mid-year population of Kirkcaldy was 49,871, some 220 fewer than the estimate for 1971.

This is not such a dramatic fall in the population as that for the previous year which was 1,984.

The statistical data in this report are based on a population of 49,871.

AREA

The Burgh area remains at 5,738 acres, and the number of inhabited houses is the same as last year.

BIRTHS

There were 665 live births referable to the Burgh during the year representing a Birth Rate of 13.3 per thousand of the population.

This is the lowest ever since records have been kept.

There were 69 illegitimate births actually 8 fewer than in 1971 but because of the overall reduction in the total number of births an increase from 9.6% to 10.4% in the rate.

DEATHS

Deaths in the Burgh amounted to 624 giving a rate of 12.5 per thousand of population as compared to 11.6 for the previous year and to the national rate of 11.8.

The principal causes of death in order were arterio-sclerotic heart disease including coronary disease, vascular lesions affecting the central nervous system, cancer and chest disease; all the remainder of the principal causes playing a very small part.

Cancer of the respiratory system, trachea, bronchus and lung, accounted for 33 out of 84 male deaths from all types of cancer compared to 29 out of 70 last year. Fifteen of these men were under 65.

MALES	Total No. Deaths Cancer	No. of Deaths Cancer of Respiratory System
YEAR		
1965	49	16
1966	57	23
1967	52	22
1968	62	26
1969	58	29
1970	70	33
1971	66	29
1972	84	33

Fatal accidents in the home totalled 10 (3 males, 7 females) as compared to 7 (3 and 4 respectively) in 1971. There were 6 road deaths (3 males and 3 females) compared to 4 in 1971 (3 and 1) respectively.

CAUSES OF DEATH Arranged according to cause, sex and age

CAUSE OF DEATH	MALES							FEMALES						
	0-	1-	15-	25-	45-	65+	Total	0-	1-	15-	25-	45-	65+	Total
Enteritis and other diarrhoeal diseases														
Tuberculosis of respiratory system					1		1							
Other Tuberculosis including late effects				1			1							
Other infective and parasitic diseases													1	1
Malignant Neoplasms – Total		1	1		29	53	84				3	20	29	52
*Malignant neoplasm of stomach					5	7	12					2	7	9
*Malignant neoplasm of trachea, bronchus and lung					15	18	33					3	2	5
*Malignant neoplasm of breast											1	6	6	13
*Malignant neoplasm of cervix uteri												1	1	2
*Malignant neoplasm of lymphatic and haematopoietic tissue			1		2	5	8					1	1	2
*Other malignant neoplasms			1		7	23	31				2	7	12	21
Benign and unspecified neoplasms														
Diabetes Mellitus					1		1						5	5
Avitaminoses and other nutritional deficiency						1	1							
Anaemias													1	1
Other general diseases														
Meningitis			1				1							
Other diseases of nervous system		2			5	2	9					1	2	3
Chronic rheumatic heart disease					3	1	4					1		1
Hypertensive disease					2	2	4						10	10
Ischaemic heart disease				2	40	59	101					13	81	94
Other forms of heart disease						6	6					1	4	5
Cerebrovascular disease			2		3	33	38			1		10	52	63
Other circulatory diseases					1	10	11					1	11	12
Influenza					2		2						3	3
Pneumonia					1	6	7		1				5	6
Bronchitis, emphysema and asthma					3	12	15				1	2	2	5
Other respiratory diseases						2	2						1	1
Peptic ulcer					2	2	4						2	2
Appendicitis					1		1							
Intestinal obstruction and hernia					1		1							
Cirrhosis of liver												2	1	3
Other digestive diseases	1			1	1		3					2	2	4
Nephritis and nephrosis				1	1	2	4					1		1
Infections of Kidney														
Other diseases of genito-urinary system						2	2					1	1	2
Other complications of pregnancy, childbirth and puerperium											1			1
Diseases of skin, musculoskeletal system, etc.					1		1					1	1	2
Congenital anomalies of nervous system								2	1					3
Congenital anomalies of circulatory system								3						3
Other congenital anomalies	1						1	1						1
Birth injury, difficult labour and other anoxic and hypoxic conditions	1						1	2						2
Other causes of peri-natal mortality	1						1	3						3
Senility without mention of psychosis														
Ill-defined and unknown causes	2		1				3							
Motor Vehicle accidents			1		1	1	3			2			1	3
Accidents in the home	3						3	1			1		5	7
Other violence			1			2	3		1				1	2
Suicide and self-inflicted injury				1	1		2					1	1	2
TOTALS	9	3	8	6	99	196	321	12	3	3	6	57	222	303

* Denotes classification of disease totalled under MALIGNANT NEOPLASMS

A. LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITY FUNCTIONS

Statistics

Births registered in Burgh during the year were as follows:

Live Births	Still-Births
665	17

Births delivered in Burgh during the year were as follows:

	Live-Births	Still-Births
Domiciliary	1	1
Forth Park Maternity Hospital	652	16

In addition 12 live births of Kirkcaldy babies born outwith Burgh were transferred back, the place of birth being:

	Live	Still-Births
Simpson Memorial Pavilion, Edinburgh.	5	—
Western General Hospital, Edinburgh	4	—
Craigtown Maternity Hospital	2	—
Perth Maternity Hospital	1	—
	<hr/> 12	<hr/> —

One maternal death occurred during the year.

Seventeen still-births were notified, giving a rate of 24.9 per 1,000 total live and still-births.

Twenty-one infants under one year of age died giving an infant mortality rate of 32 per 1,000 live births compared to 23 deaths in 1971 with an infant mortality rate of 29. The national infant mortality rate was 19.

Fifteen of these infants died under one month, giving a neonatal mortality rate of 23 compared to 12 deaths and a rate of 15 in 1971.

Twelve of these died under one week and this number combined with the 17 still-births, gives a total of 29 peri-natal deaths and a peri-natal mortality rate of 42.5. The national rate was 23.7 per 1,000 live and still-births. Accepting that the total numbers of deaths are small and variations in the total up or down make a considerable difference to the rate and that therefore the statistic is suspect it is still a matter for investigation of our practices in Ante-natal, Obstetric and Post Natal care as the rate has worsened now for the last three years and is in fact the worst rate for 21 years.

PERINATAL DEATH RATES OVER LAST 21 YEARS

Year	Live Births	Still-Births	Deaths under 1 week	Peri-natal Death Rate
1950	896	27	12	42.2
1951	923	22	18	42.3
1952	810	25	18	51.5
1953	840	20	13	38.3
1954	938	32	13	46.4
1955	856	27	11	43.0
1956	901	21	15	39.0
1957	945	20	16	37.2
1958	1,017	35	12	44.6
1959	958	23	8	31.6
1960	874	24	5	32.3
1961	981	25	13	37.7
1962	967	22	12	34.3
1963	942	17	9	27.1
1964	848	18	7	28.9
1965	923	16	8	25.6
1966	875	10	9	21.5
1967	917	9	11	21.6
1968	913	12	10	23.7
1969	869	6	7	14.8
1970	769	17	8	31.8
1971	806	11	10	25.7
1972	665	17	12	42.5

Number of Infant Deaths

	M.	F.
Under 1 week	3	9
1 to 2 weeks	—	2
2 to 3 weeks	—	—
3 to 4 weeks	1	—
4 weeks to 3 months	2	1
3 months to 6 months	2	—
6 months to 9 months	1	—
9 months to 12 months	—	—
TOTAL	9	12

Certified Causes of Infant Deaths

	Under 4 weeks		4 weeks to 1 year	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
Prematurity	1	3	1	—
Spina Bifida	—	1	—	—
Congenital Heart Disease	—	2	—	—
Cerebral Anoxia	—	1	—	—
Intracranial Haemorrhage	—	1	—	—
Trisomy	—	1	—	—
Post operative, respiratory and Circu- latory Failure	1	—	—	—
Respiratory Distress Syndrome	1	—	—	—
Cardiac Arrest	—	—	—	1
Subdural Haemorrhage	—	—	—	1
Asphyxia	—	—	1	—
Pneumonia	—	—	1	—
Ill Defined or unknown causes	—	—	2	—
Aspiration of Gastric Content	—	—	1	—
	3	9	6	3

1. MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE (Section 22)

Clinic Premises

There are four ad hoc clinics in the Burgh. These are at Loughborough Road, Fair Isle Road, Hayfield Road and Alison Street.

(a) ANTE-NATAL and POST-NATAL CLINICS (whether provided at Child Welfare Centres or at other premises).

These are held at Loughborough Road and Fair Isle Clinics, and staffed by a Consultant Obstetrician and nurses from the Hospital Services and Health Visitors whose duties are largely educational.

Ante-Natal

- (i) Number of clinics at end of year in premises provided by local health authority 2
- (ii) Total number of women who attended the clinics during the year . . . 2,599 (1,850)
- (iii) Total number of sessions 207 (203)

(Figures in brackets from 1971 Annual Report)

Post Natal Clinic

The Post Natal Clinic is held at Loughborough Road at the same time as a Family Planning Clinic so that women who wish to plan their families can get advice easily and at the right time.

(b) PREPARATION CLASSES

These classes have continued to flourish and the mothers fully realise the value of them.

Numbers attending at each clinic:

Clinic	No. of Sessions		No. of Cases		Total Attendances	
Loughborough Road Fair Isle	42	(48)	88	(107)	352	(383)
	40	(43)	161	(166)	592	(646)

(Figures in brackets from 1971 Annual Report)

(c) CHILD WELFARE CLINICS (held at all the clinic premises)

- (i) Number of clinics at end of year provided by local health authority 5
- (ii) Total number of children under five years of age who first attended at the clinics during the year and who were born in:
- | | | |
|-----------------------|-----|-------|
| (a) 1972 | 594 | (728) |
| (b) 1971 | 675 | (730) |
| (c) 1968-70 | 478 | (457) |
| (d) 1967 | 122 | (101) |
- (iii) Total number of attendances during the year made at the clinics by children who were born in:
- | | | |
|-----------------------|-------|---------|
| (a) 1972 | 5,107 | (6,176) |
| (b) 1971 | 4,180 | (4,239) |
| (c) 1968-70 | 2,843 | (3,155) |
| (d) 1967 | 122 | (101) |
- (iv) Total number of sessions:
- | | | |
|----------------------------|-----|-------|
| Medical Officers | 228 | (234) |
| Health Visitors | 244 | (250) |
- (Figures in brackets from 1971 Annual Report)
- (v) At Risk Register:
- | | |
|--|-----|
| Number on Register at 1st January, 1972 | 263 |
| Number placed on Register during 1972 | 91 |
| Number removed from Register during 1972 | 57 |
| Number transferred out during 1972 | 21 |
| Number transferred to Handicapped Register during 1972 | 9 |
| Number deceased | 1 |
| Number on Register at 31st December, 1972 | 266 |

At Risk Register:

<i>Year of Birth</i>	<i>Number on Register</i>
1972	36
1971	42
1970	40
1966-69	148
TOTAL	266

Number of children referred to the family doctor or for specialist treatment or advice as a result of a medical examination:

<i>Year of Birth</i>	<i>Number</i>
1972	1
1971	4
1970	3
1966-69	5
TOTAL	13

(vi) Handicapped Register:

Number on Register at 1st January, 1972	228
Number placed on Register during 1972	28
Number removed from Register during 1972.	30
Number on Register at 31st December, 1972.	226
Number on Register born 1967-72	33
Number removed from Register Born 1967-72	1

(d) WELFARE FOODS – Statement of issues during 1972

	Issued during 1972	Recoveries during 1972
National Dried Milk — Tins	1,199	£239.80
Orange Juice Bottles	6,888	516.60
A & D Tablets Packets	212	5.30
A D C Drops Bottles	2,282	114.10
A D C Tablets Packets	1,566	93.96

These issues include:

- 412 free issues of National Dried Milk
- 22 free issues of Orange Juice
- 10 free issues of A & D Tablets
- 435 free issues of A D C Drops
- 30 free issues of A D C Tablets

(e) DENTAL CARE FOR EXPECTANT AND NURSING MOTHERS AND
PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN – AUGUST 1971 - JULY 1972

General Statistics	Age			Maternity
	3 or under	4	Total Ages 0-4	
Routine Dental Inspection . . .	101	37	138	4
With dental defects	34	25	59	4
Offered treatment	34	25	59	4
Accepting treatment	34	25	59	4
Treated by L.A. Dental Officer . .	43	31	74	4
Number made dentally fit	23	31	54	—
Special and emergency cases . . .	—	2	2	—
Special made dentally fit	—	2	2	—

2. MIDWIFERY (Section 23)

The arrangements whereby Forth Park Maternity Hospital undertakes to run the domiciliary midwifery services continues satisfactorily.

3. HEALTH VISITING

In addition to duties in Maternity and Child Welfare the Health Visitors act as school nurses, visit the old and do a considerable amount of health education both in school and with adult groups in clinics and with other organisations out of normal working hours.

The Health Visitors still have to give a great deal of support to many of the problem families as they have their confidence.

Cases referred to Social Work Department

The number of cases referred formally is as follows:

Psychiatric	2
Handicapped Persons	47
Financial Problems	9
Social Problems	5
Meals on Wheels	5
Care of Children	5
Admission to Homes	46
Adoption	3
Housing Problems	6
Unmarried expectant mothers	3
Telephones	2
Alarms	2

(1) Number of home visits and cases:

	Number of cases		Number of visits	
1. Expectant Mothers	490	(451)	769	(724)
2. Children born in 1972	682	(844)	5,392	(5,889)
3. Children born in 1971	1,094	(1,025)	5,084	(5,215)
4. Children born 1967-70	2,489	(2,546)	9,087	(9,735)
5. School Children	273	(251)	425	(416)
6. (a) Persons aged 65 years and over	952	(744)	3,534	(2,700)
(b) Persons included above who were visited at special request of a general practitioner or hospital	*481	(404)	*1,349	(956)
7. (a) Mental Health: care and after-care	86	(57)	265	(194)
(b) Persons included above who were visited at the special request of a general practitioner or hospital	*49	(34)	*170	(122)
8. (a) Other Hospital after-care	50	(25)	97	(66)
(b) Persons included above who were visited at the special request of a general practitioner or hospital	*27	(19)	*54	(36)
9. Tuberculosis household	50	(66)	103	(162)
10. Other infectious diseases	14	(64)	16	(71)
11. Other†	970	(927)	1,332	(1,272)
12. "No access" visits	2,877	(2,875)	5,495	(5,407)
TOTAL	10,027	(9,875)	31,599	(31,851)

* included in totals (a)

	No. of Cases	No. of Visits
† Other visits include		
Chiropody	258 (242)	276 (256)
Handicapped adults	118 (69)	308 (264)
Home Help Service	28 (13)	39 (14)
Meals on Wheels	11 (4)	13 (15)
Housing (Medical conditions)	294 (249)	331 (266)
Miscellaneous	261 (350)	365 (457)
Total	970 (927)	1,332(1,272)

(Figures in brackets from 1971 Annual Report)

* The ever increasing problem of the ageing population can be seen by the increasing number of visits having to be made to the over 65's many at the request of the General Practitioner.

(2) Attendances by Health Visitors at Local Health Authority Clinics, Hospital Units, School Health Sessions, etc.:

(i) TOTAL ATTENDANCES BY HEALTH VISITORS

(a) Local Health Authority Clinics	1,131	(1,068)
(b) Hospital Units etc. (including Chest Clinics 40)	186	(182)
(c) School Health Sessions (includes B.C.G. 23)	901	(950)
(d) G.P. Surgeries	586	(554)
(e) Family Planning Clinic	66	(48)

(ii) TYPES OF CLINICS, ETC., ATTENDED

Local Health Authority Clinics

Child Welfare

(includes 14 attendances at those sessions by Clinic Nurse)	769	(805)
(Health Education is done at all Clinics)		

Others:

Relaxation and Mothercraft	91	(87)
Hearing	103	(92)
"Well Woman's"	28	(15)
Eye	20	(20)
Immunisation	44	(49)
Obesity	76	(—)
Family Planning	66	(48)

(iii) HOSPITAL UNITS ETC.:

Ante-natal	186	(182)
Chest	47	(38)

	<i>Health Visitors</i>	<i>Clinic Nurse</i>	<i>Total</i>	
(iv) SCHOOL HEALTH SESSIONS				
Medical Inspections	89	123	212	(272)
Formal Health Inspections	16	459	475	(515)
Others:				
Mothercraft	91	—	91	(37)
B.C.G.	3	20	23	(62)
Career's Course	39	—	39	(30)
Advisory	27	10	37	(40)
Hearing Tests:				
Number tested	—	—	645	(594)

(Figures in brackets from 1971 Annual Report)

Work of Medico-Social Worker

Number of cases carried forward from 1971	12	
Number of new cases during 1972	960	
		972
Assessment of results: Needs met satisfactorily	826	
Needs met partially	36	
Needs not met	11	
Results unknown	51	
Patients died	31	
Cases still current	17	
		972

Wider Basic Training

The scheme inaugurated in January, 1965 for the Wider Basic Training in Community Health and Social Services of student nurses from Victoria Hospital has continued satisfactorily. During 1972, 44 students received training.

4. HOME NURSING (Section 25)

Although the actual population of the burgh is slowly decreasing the number of aged persons is rising and on two counts this adds considerably to the work of the District Nurses. Firstly this rising population of aged in any event would require more of a district nursing service but perhaps more importantly, because of the grave shortage of geriatric beds, too many of these older sick have to be nursed at home although they require hospital treatment.

During the year two of the State Registered District Nurses and one State Enrolled Nurse were sent on day release for training and now have the National Certificate of District Nursing.

Number of persons nursed during the year:

	Under 5 years	5 years and Under 65 years	65 years and over	Total
No. on Register at beginning of year	1	84	236	321
Number of new cases during year	8	229	455	692
No. of visits during year	175	9,632	31,021	40,828

The Marie Curie Memorial Foundation

Under arrangements made in 1963 with the above Foundation night nursing services were provided during the year for two terminal cases suffering from cancer, at a total cost of £35.97.

5. VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION (Section 26)

There were no changes in the methods or schedules of Vaccination and Immunisation this year and the continuing programme of immunisations against Diphtheria, Tetanus, Whooping Cough, Poliomyelitis, Measles, German Measles and Tuberculosis went smoothly.

Smallpox

During 1972 sixty-one children were vaccinated either at clinics or by their general practitioners.

Almost all of these were children who were emigrating with their families.

Diphtheria Immunisation

Three thousand, four hundred and fifty-two children born since the 1st January, 1968, had completed immunisation against Diphtheria out of a total of 4,022 born in these years. This represents about 86% of the population at risk which is reasonably satisfactory.

Whooping Cough

As more than 90% of those immunised against Diphtheria have in fact had the triple antigen of Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus the immunisation rate against Whooping Cough is also satisfactory.

Tetanus

Tetanus immunisation is included now with Diphtheria, or with Diphtheria and Whooping Cough, so that there are very few young children who have not been satisfactorily immunised against Tetanus and who therefore only need, in face of risk to Tetanus from injury, a booster dose.

Year of Birth	Vaccination	
	Primary	Maintenance
1970	1	3
1969	—	3
1968	—	3
1967	—	—
1966 or earlier	45	51
TOTAL	46	60

Poliomyelitis

The response to immunisation against Poliomyelitis continues to be very good and in fact runs almost parallel with the response to the triple vaccine.

Measles

Whilst there is still not quite such an enthusiastic response amongst mothers to have their children vaccinated against measles the situation continues to improve.

Eight hundred and fourteen children mostly between one and two years of age were vaccinated in 1972 compared to 774 in 1971 bringing the total known number so vaccinated under 7 years of age to 4,076 which is about 70.1% of the population under that age.

Three children were notified as suffering from measles subsequent to their being immunised against the disease.

There was no reported case of severe reaction to this procedure.

Rubella (German Measles)

Vaccination against German Measles is offered to girls between the ages of 11 and 14. The purpose of this procedure is to ensure that they are given protection against rubella by vaccination before reaching child-bearing age, because of the known association of certain foetal abnormalities with rubella infection in pregnancy.

There were no cases of severe reaction to this immunisation.

GERMAN MEASLES
Number Vaccinated During the Year

Year of Birth	Number Vaccinated
Pre 1958	2
1958	3
1959	16
1960	293
1961	1
TOTAL	315

B.C.G. Vaccination

The exact figures for the consent rate to B.C.G. Vaccination is not known. All pupils at the 13-year old medical examination are checked to see if they have had the Tuberculin Test and/or B.C.G. Vaccination and very few cases are found where the test has not been applied. These cases are usually incomers to the area or pupils who have been absent when consent cards were issued. Any such cases found are asked to get a consent card signed for the next campaign.

Rectors, headmasters and clerical staff in schools have given complete co-operation.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

NUMBERS RECEIVING FULL PRIMARY COURSE OF DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

YEAR OF BIRTH

Total Live Births	YEAR OF IMMUNISATION																Total
	1957 945	1958 1,017	1959 958	1960 874	1961 981	1962 967	1963 942	1964 848	1965 923	1966 875	1967 917	1968 913	1969 869	1970 769	1971 806	1972 665	
1957	101																101
1958	259	112															371
1959	28	284	126														438
1960	13	39	241	166													459
1961	18	23	48	399	338												826
1962	43	8	14	35	421	267											788
1963	68	27	6	11	46	414	363										935
1964	5	78	30	11	13	46	384	348									915
1965	1		43	22	8	11	25	378	398								886
1966					3	8	22	17	372	385							807
1967				1		5	15	15	22	378	413						849
1968						1	4	6	3	18	387	379					798
1969						10	27	10		4	5	336	9				401
1970							2	21	7	7	9	88	629	7			770
1971									28		6	31	106	574	5		750
1972									13	14	5	14	9	84	589	5	733
TOTAL	536	571	508	645	829	762	842	795	843	806	825	848	753	665	594	5	10,827

POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION - PRIMARY COURSE
YEAR OF BIRTH

YEAR OF VACCINATION													All Ages
	1945	1946	1947	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972
1960	1,111												1,111
1961	1,051	163											1,214
1962	837	663	156										1,656
1963	141	38	535	154									868
1964	105	26	92	582	147								952
1965	73	14	39	55	568	180							929
1966	64	31	25	45	72	567	188						992
1967	13	15	13	17	19	31	548	256					912
1968	5	1	12	5	9	15	43	547	203				840
1969			5	4	8	1	4	14	497	9			542
1970				2	10	7	7	8	101	620	6		761
1971					9	12	3	4	17	86	580	7	718
1972						15	14	6	14	9	83	553	6
TOTAL	3,400	951	877	864	842	828	807	835	832	724	669	560	6
													12,195

Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus

Number of children who received courses of immunisation in year.

Year of Birth	Diphtheria	Tetanus	Pertussis	Diphtheria and Pertussis	Diphtheria and Tetanus	Diphtheria Pertussis and Tetanus	
1972	—	—	—	—	—	5	PRIMARY
1971	—	—	—	—	1	588	
1970	—	1	—	—	4	80	
1969	—	—	—	—	—	9	
1968	—	—	—	—	—	14	
1967	—	—	—	—	2	3	
1966 or earlier	—	45	—	—	26	1	
TOTAL	—	46	—	—	33	700	
1972	—	—	—	—	—	—	BOOSTERS
1971	—	—	—	—	—	—	
1970	—	3	—	—	1	2	
1969	—	3	—	—	—	—	
1968	—	3	—	—	—	—	
1967	—	—	—	—	383	2	
1966 or earlier	—	51	—	—	339	3	
TOTAL	—	60	—	—	723	7	

Poliomyelitis

Number of booster doses during 1972.

Year of Birth	1968	1967	1966	1965	1964	1963	1962 and earlier	TOTAL
Number given Booster Dose	2	455	211	7	1	2	7	685

Measles Vaccination

Year of Birth	Number vaccinated during 1972
1972	1
1971	424
1970	248
1969	51
1968	48
1967	22
1966 or earlier	20
TOTAL	814

B.C.G. Vaccination

Group	Tuberculin Tested		Negative Re-actors		Vaccinated during 1971	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1. Nurses	6	108	—	39	—	32
2. Medical Students	—	—	—	—	—	—
3. Contacts	30	25	29	25	24	24
4. Special Groups not included in (1) to (3) above:						
(a) School Leavers	495	461	478	437	478	437
5. Others: Laboratory Staff	4	2	—	2	—	2
TOTAL	535	596	507	503	502	495

Number of Contacts Tuberculin Tested under the B.C.G. Vaccination Scheme:

Age Group	Results				Totals		Given B.C.G.	
	Negative		Positive					
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	5	6	—	—	5	6	5	6
1 and under 5 years	18	15	—	—	18	15	15	14
5 and under 10 years	3	3	1	—	4	3	3	3
10 and under 15 years	3	1	—	—	3	1	1	1
15 and under 20 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20 years and over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total Tests Performed	29	25	1	—	30	25	24	24

6. PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE AND AFTER-CARE (Section 27)

Health Education

Health education is continually given by all the members of the Health Department team, doctors, health visitors, sanitary inspectors, nurses and midwives in their day-to-day contact with the members of the public but in addition a great deal is done by individuals giving talks to groups of outside organisations, mothers' clubs and so on, and every opportunity is taken to project health by poster, exhibit and other means of publicity. The health visitors instruct classes in the Secondary Schools in the formal careers' course and during the year 39 sessions were held.

	<i>Full-time</i>	<i>Part-time</i>
Number of staff devoting whole time to Health Education	—	—
Number of School Sessions	57	—

Obesity Clinic

The Obesity Clinic was started in May 1972 for those who are overweight and whose health would benefit from losing at least a stone in weight and the title "Stoneaway Club" was aptly brought into being. Patients were referred by their General Practitioners, Health Visitors and also self-referred. It would be untrue to say that in all the cases the avowed aim of taking off a stone was accomplished but by far the greater proportion of those attending did lose weight and even those few who did not at least knew more about the causes of obesity and about sensible and practical diets and methods of reducing. The course lasts for ten weeks and four 10 weekly sessions were held.

Total number who attended . . . 86

Total number of attendances . . . 642

Domiciliary Physiotherapy Service

A Domiciliary Physiotherapy Service was started in November, 1971. This service was primarily intended for early rehabilitation of such conditions as strokes where the patient did not have to be admitted to the hospital, early cases of rheumatism and other such conditions where early treatment not only improved the physical state of the patient but also improved their morale and incentive to get back to as near normality as possible. The other aspects were maintaining mobility of the elderly and the continuing treatment of certain types of handicapped children.

PHYSIOTHERAPY

	Domiciliary			Abden Home	Denend Home
	—15 yrs.	15-64 yrs.	65+ yrs.		
No. of cases brought forward . . .	3	19	21	6	7
No. of new cases . . .	18	31	78	11	27
Total No. of cases . . .	21	50	99	17	34
No. of cases discontinued . . .	8	36	78	12	9
Total No. of treatments . . .	215	363	601	179	370

Tuberculosis

The Health visitors made 103 visits to households where there were notified cases of tuberculosis to advise them in general hygiene, care of the patient, diet, and other aspects of their welfare. One Health visitor acts as liaison officer with the Chest Physician.

Chiropody

This is a particularly essential service to the elderly and the handicapped as foot deformities and discomforts can reduce their activities and this tends to cause deterioration in their general health. In addition to the domiciliary service the Local Authority chiropodist visits Abden and Denend Homes once a month.

Cases and Treatment

	Local Authority Chiropodists		Private Chiropodists (2)	
No. of cases treated in own home .	490	(431)	4	(5)
No. of cases treated at surgery .	574	(473)	272	(288)
No. of cases treated in Abden Home	68	(70)	—	—
No. of cases treated in Denend Home	35	(38)	—	—
Total No. of cases treated . . .	1,167	(1,012)	276	(293)
No. of treatments in own home .	2,338	(2,329)	16	(10)
No. of treatments in surgery .	3,025	(2,695)	1,608	(1,839)
No. of treatments at Abden Home	404	(410)	—	—
No. of treatments at Denend Home	173	(172)	—	—
Total No. of treatments . . .	5,940	(5,606)	1,624	(1,849)

Amount of fees recovered during the year . . . £785.24 (£707.80)

Amount of fees paid to private chiropodists during
the year. £1,346.42 (£1,398.65)

(Figures in brackets from 1971 Annual Report)

Rehousing

Three hundred and two applications for rehousing for medical reasons were received during the year.

One hundred and thirty-nine families were rehoused who had been recommended for health reasons. Ninety of these had been rehoused within a year of getting the recommendation, thirty-four within two years and the remaining fifteen had waited more than two years but some of these had only marginal health reasons for rehousing.

Provision of Nursing Equipment

Nursing equipment is loaned in appropriate circumstances to help nursing of invalids in the home. This equipment is held by the District Nurses and is also obtainable from the department.

During the year the total number of articles of medical equipment on loan from the department was 1,146 (1,049 in 1971).

Diagnostic Clinic

This clinic is held at Fair Isle Clinic weekly, morning one week and evening the alternate week. It is open to all women in the area but the

propaganda is aimed primarily at those at greatest risk, that is, those who had married early or had large families, or lived in poor housing, and the health visitor made special efforts to interest mothers who came into these categories.

In addition to the gynaecological examination simple blood tests for anaemia and urine testing for sugar are done, breasts are examined, and the patient is weighed.

Number of women who attended the clinic during 1972	221	(204)
Number of satisfactory cervical smears	215	(198)
Number of suspicious smears or suspicious symptoms on examination	3	(5)
Number not smeared for various reasons	3	(1)

(Figures in brackets from 1971 Annual Report)

Nine women satisfactorily smeared were referred for gynaecological defects, mainly minor in nature.

Two women died of cancer of the cervix uteri during the year. This is a disease for which there are reliable methods of treating successfully if diagnosed early but women seem very apathetic to the idea of attending special clinics for screening to detect the early stages of this disease.

Family Planning

The Family Planning Services are provided for the Burgh by the Family Planning Association who use the local authority clinic at Loughborough Road for two sessions each week.

During the year the Burgh accepted the principle that everyone was entitled to free advice but only those who had medical or medico-social reasons should get free treatment. To implement this policy the Burgh agreed to pay the Family Planning Association for each person who availed themselves of the service for advice and also to pay for the treatment for those with medical reasons.

The service has grown rapidly over the last two or three years. During 1972 there were 1,592 attendances.

7. HOME HELP SERVICE (Section 28)

This service was transferred to the Social Work Department in May 1972.

8. WORK DONE UNDER THE NURSING HOMES REGISTRATION (SCOTLAND) ACT, 1938

No Nursing Homes operate in the Burgh.

B. ENVIRONMENTAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Notification of Infectious Diseases 1972

(Figures in brackets from 1971 Annual Report)

Nature of Disease	No. of Cases Notified	Removed to Hospital	Not Removed to Hospital
Chickenpox	76 (182)	1	75
Measles	12 (502)	—	12
Scarlet Fever	5 (21)	—	5
Infective Hepatitis	3 (8)	2	1
Pneumonia (Acute Primary)	19 (23)	17	2
Pneumonia (Acute Influenzal)	6 (1)	6	—
Dysentery	178 (88)	4	174
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	12 (12)	12	—
Erysipelas	— (1)	—	—
Food Poisoning	18 (559)	1	17
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	— (1)	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	— (—)	—	—
Rubella	1 (—)	—	1
Whooping Cough	— (29)	—	—
TOTAL	330 (1,427)	43	287

NOTIFIED INFECTIOUS DISEASES OVER THE LAST 22 YEARS

	1972	1971	1970	1969	1968	1967	1966	1965	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951
Chickenpox*	76	182	39	87	161	74	101	326	127	76	325	292	174	108	478	81	365	66	342	265	366	337
Measles	12	502	186	78	62	372	333	328	183	347	361	189	555	252	415	199	324	720	231	205	541	933
Scarlet Fever	5	21	8	23	59	26	40	15	40	30	19	14	40	136	27	10	42	43	82	160	196	84
Infective Hepatitis†	3	8	27	25	86	27	30	10	—	—	—	45	—	24	8	21	50	35	75	21	28	30
Pneumonia, acute primary	19	23	22	30	16	10	25	35	33	47	49	52	61	86	77	103	86	60	57	79	65	66
Pneumonia, acute influenzal	6	1	7	—	1	—	1	1	—	7	—	5	—	6	8	12	15	3	11	9	1	10
German Measles*	1	—	1	—	3	105	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	10	1	—	—	7	—
Dysentery	178	88	84	154	262	82	108	264	60	113	108	95	142	128	195	77	180	177	72	32	10	19
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	12	12	7	1	3	2	4	—	3	—	10	4	3	10	1	4	2	2	2	6	5	8
Erysipelas	—	1	4	3	4	6	4	3	8	6	4	8	4	9	8	12	18	23	25	30	26	27
Whooping Cough	—	29	17	—	5	123	7	2	24	54	2	9	134	26	7	258	240	16	220	374	279	391
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	—	2	1	—	18	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	2	4	5	4	2	1	3	22	2	4	7	9	5	2
Food Poisoning	18	559	4	—	—	5	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11	21	14	2	4	18
Para-Typhoid B.	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	9	—	—	—	—	—
Brucellosis*	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhoid	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	2	1	—	1	2	7

* These infectious diseases are not strictly speaking notifiable.

† These infectious diseases only became officially notifiable in October, 1968.

Measles

Twelve cases were notified in 1972 as compared to 502 in 1971.

As I commented last year under Measles Vaccination the situation might be arrived at quite quickly where the number of children immunised either naturally by virtue of having had the disease or artificially, would become so great that epidemics might be avoided. Whilst it is too early yet to make any exaggerated claims it is interesting to see how few cases we have had this year.

Dysentery

One hundred and seventy-eight cases of dysentery were notified during the year as compared to 86 in 1971.

Fifty-eight were proven bacteriologically and the town has been fortunate over the last few years in that no major outbreaks of Dysentery have occurred.

Food Poisoning

Eighteen cases of food poisoning were notified during the year.

Infective Hepatitis

Three cases of infective hepatitis were notified in 1972 compared to eight in 1971. One child and two adults. The incubation period of this disease is rather long and makes prevention very difficult.

Pulmonary Tuberculosis

Three cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were notified during 1972 as compared with nine for the previous year.

Non Pulmonary Tuberculosis

No cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis were notified during 1972 as compared with one case in the previous year.

The number of persons resident in the Burgh at 31st December, 1972, who remain under supervision because of tuberculosis is:

Pulmonary	.	.	.	.	.	55
Non-Pulmonary	.	.	.	.	.	6
TOTAL	.	.	.	.	.	<u>61</u>

Tuberculosis

	Age Period	No. of cases notified		No. of notified cases actually confirmed		No. of notified cases receiving Sanatorium treatment		No. of Deaths of notified cases		Total Deaths	
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
PULMONARY	Under 5 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	5 to 15 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	15 to 25 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	25 to 35 years	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
	35 to 45 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	45 to 55 years	2	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
	55 to 65 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	65 upwards .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
NON-PULMONARY	Totals .	3	—	3	—	3	—	—	—	—	—
	Under 5 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	5 to 15 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	15 to 25 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	25 to 35 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	35 to 45 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	45 to 65 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	65 upwards .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Totals .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

The Consultant at the Infectious Diseases Hospital at Cameron, which is the Infectious Diseases Hospital for the area, keeps us fully informed of all infectious disease cases admitted from the Burgh. The Laboratory at Victoria Hospital is very co-operative and carries out without demur all investigations which we request. They also keep us well informed of all positive results of specimens of infectious diseases taken by the general practitioners.

The liaison and co-operation between the department and the general practitioners is a little more variable and in some aspects not quite so satisfactory, the main difficulty being delay in notification and, in some instances, failure to notify.

C. PORT HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

Twenty-seven ships from foreign ports entered Kirkcaldy Harbour during 1972 and free pratique was granted in all cases.

D. MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS

As from 2nd February, 1970, drivers of vehicles of over 3 tons unladen weight require a Heavy Goods Vehicle Licence. The application must be supported by a medical certificate. Applicants are not entitled to this examination under the provisions of the National Health Service Act and the Health Department has undertaken to examine Local Authority drivers. During the year twenty-nine examinations were carried out.

The number of examinations for superannuation purposes done by this department throughout the year totalled 57. In addition eight medical examinations were carried out on our behalf by outside authorities.

E. FIFE MARRIAGE GUIDANCE COUNCIL

Since the constitution of the Council in 1960 this department has acted as the postal and telephonic contact between counsellors and enquirers. Outwith normal consulting hours counsellors can be put in touch through this department with enquirers urgently in need of advice.

F. SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

Fife County Council is the education authority for the Burgh but the school health service is delegated to our health department and two medical officers devote approximately fifty per cent of their time to this work.

The health visitors take a very active part in the secondary schools in the vocational training classes and are accepted in these schools as part-time teachers.

B.C.G. is now offered to entrants to secondary schools instead of to thirteen- year olds.

Because of the shortage of consultant ophthalmologists it has been necessary to refer pupils with simple refractive errors to their family doctors for onward referrals to opticians but it is still possible to have all pupils with strabismus referred to the consultant.

Incidental physical disease of children, such as skin lesions, otorrhoeas and so on, are now less common but on the other hand more and more children appear to require examination and treatment for emotional and behaviour problems.

I would like to thank the headmasters and teachers of all the schools for their help and co-operation.

A brief summary relating to the school year August 1971/72 is given herewith:

	<i>Boys</i>	<i>Girls</i>	<i>Total</i>
Number of parents present at medical inspection:			
(a) with entrant infants . . .	366	339	705
(b) with others (second age group) .	3	2	5

Number of examinations:	<i>Boys</i>	<i>Girls</i>	<i>Total</i>
Entrants	485	423	908
Second age group	20	3	23
Third age group	465	506	971
Fourth age group	28	—	28
Re-examinations	72	68	140
Special examinations	167	179	346
Vision Testing (6-7 years)	439	451	890
Vision Testing (9 years)	449	447	896
Vision Testing (11 years)	432	384	816
	<hr/> 2,557	<hr/> 2,461	<hr/> 5,018

Number of children examined by	
School Nurse	19,860
Clean	19,387
Nits or head vermin	473
Special Clinics – Eye	24

Medical Examinations for Free Milk

Total Number of Referrals	Total Number of Examinations	Total Number Granted	Total Number Refused	Number Cancelled
321	307	168	139	14

Nine school leavers were notified by the School Medical Officer to the Education Authority under Section 66 of the Education (Scotland) Act, 1966.

	<i>Boys</i>	<i>Girls</i>	<i>Total</i>
Forms Y.9 issued in 1972/73	34	2	36
Bronchitis	1	—	1
Asthma	6	—	6
Hay Fever	—	—	—
Colour Blindness	21	—	21
Eczema	1	—	1
Defective Hearing	2	—	2
Cerebral Palsy	—	—	—
Weak Eyesight	—	—	—
Artificial Left Eye	—	—	—
Spinal	—	—	—
Deformity of Hand and Foot	1	—	1
Deformity of Fingers	—	—	—
Epileptic	1	1	2
Forms Y.10 issued in 1972/73	4	—	4

NURSES' HYGIENE INSPECTIONS YEAR 1971 - 1972

Condition	School Health Service			Nursery Class		Treatment by Nurse		
	1	2	3	4	No. of cases in Col. 3 followed-up by home visits	At Home New Cases	In Clinics New Cases	Total attendance
	No. of new cases with defect	No. of cases in Col. 1 followed-up by home visits	New cases with defect	No. of cases in Col. 3 followed-up by home visits				
Head Vermin	473	371	—	—	—	—	—	—
Body Vermin	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ringworm (Scalp)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scabies	86	75	—	—	—	—	—	—
Uncleanliness or Neglect	16	14	—	—	—	—	—	—
Impetigo contagiosa	76	48	1	—	—	—	—	—
Other Skin Conditions	161	13	—	—	—	—	—	—
Otorrhoea	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Eye Disease (external)	24	13	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ear Cases	24	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nose and Throat Cases	14	5	4	1	—	—	—	—
Other Cases	195	142	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cuts and bruises	113	9	—	—	—	—	—	—
Septic conditions	47	11	2	—	—	—	—	—
(Accidents)	12	3	—	—	—	—	2	2
(Advisory Cases)	79	14	3	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	1,331	721	10	1	—	—	2	2

Total No. of children seen at inspection

Total No. Re-inspected (i.e., children with defect at a previous inspection) 19,860
915

Dental Inspection and Treatment
1st August, 1971, to 31st July, 1972

Section I – GENERAL STATISTICS

Age	Routine Dental Inspection	With Dental Defects	Accepting Treatment	Treated	Made Dentally Fit	Special and Emergency Cases
-5	277	124	82	100	67	2
5	952	495	184	202	136	10
6	817	387	138	187	130	2
7	635	292	120	182	120	10
8	684	313	142	196	138	6
9	729	285	124	174	118	8
10	693	260	96	155	97	8
11	803	285	101	144	93	1
12	924	320	152	199	115	16
13	1,075	344	82	121	88	5
14	1,014	331	69	88	58	6
15	375	106	32	44	35	1
16	34	12	5	11	11	1
17	—	—	1	3	3	—
TOTALS	9,012	3,554	1,328	1,806	1,209	76

Attendances for Treatment 5 to 17 years = 8,735

Section II – DETAILS OF TREATMENT

	Routine	Special and Emergency	Total
(a) Fillings:			
(i) Permanent teeth	2,337	—	2,337
(ii) Deciduous teeth	970	—	970
(b) Extractions (excluding orthodontic)			
(i) Permanent teeth	111	—	111
(ii) Deciduous teeth	550	—	550
General Anaesthetics	2	—	2
Other operations – Permanent teeth	1,263	—	1,263
– Deciduous teeth	1,079	—	1,079
Dentures – Partial	3	—	3
Full	—	—	—
Radiographs – No. of exposures Intra-oral	20	—	20
(Excluding orthodontics)			
„ – Extra-Oral	23	—	23

Section III – ORTHODONTIC TREATMENT

No. of cases continued from previous year	50
New cases	33
Cases completed	24
Cases discontinued	8
Attendances for treatment	538
No. of consultations with R.H.B. orthodontist	55

	R.H.B. Consultant	School Dental Officer	Total
No. of diagnostic examinations	22	20	42
Not followed by treatment	—	—	—
No. of cases with removable appliances	34	—	34
with fixed appliances	—	—	—
No. of extractions (non-carious)			
(i) Permanent teeth	—	70	70
(ii) Deciduous teeth	—	66	66
Repairs to orthodontic appliances	—	1	1
Radiographs – No. of exposures			
(a) Intra-oral	14	—	14
(b) Extra-oral	17	—	17

Section IV – DENTAL STAFF

	Dental Surgeons	Dental Hygienists	Surgery Assistants
Establishment of posts agreed by Council	3		3
No. in post at 31/7/72 – Wholetime	2		2
Part-time	1		1
Whole-time equivalent of part-time	$\frac{1}{3}$		$\frac{1}{3}$
Total whole-time equivalent	$2\frac{1}{3}$		$2\frac{1}{3}$
Total half-days worked during year ended 31/7/72			
(a) in School Health Service	905		
(b) in Maternity and Child Welfare Service	39		

Section V – ALLOCATION OF TIME

	Dental Surgeons
Total actual half-days	983
Estimated number of half-days occupied in Inspection	105
Dental Health Education	—
Treatment (other than orthodontics)	
School	762
Orthodontic treatment	38
Treatment – M. & C.W.	39
Administration (approx.)	12
Absence due to illness	4
Miscellaneous	23
TOTAL	983

APPENDIX **FACTORIES ACT, 1961**

1. **INSPECTIONS** for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Secs. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by local authorities	3	3	—	—
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by local authority	278	130	—	—
(3) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the local authority (including out-workers premises)	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	281	133	—	—

2. Cases in which **DEFECTS** were found – (If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more “cases”).

Nil

Part VIII of the Act **OUTWORK**

(Section 133 and 134)

Nil

COMPARATIVE ANNUAL NUMBER AND RATES OF BIRTHS AND DEATHS

Year	Population	Births		Infant Deaths		Maternal Deaths			Total Deaths	Death Rate per 1,000 Population
		No.	Rate per 1,000 Total Population	No.	Infant Mortality	Puerperal Fever	Other	Rate per 1,000 Births		
1930	43,796	789	18.0	47	60	1	5	7.6	537	12.3
1	43,904	757	17.2	42	55	4	5	11.9	545	12.4
2	44,170	743	16.8	53	71	2	7	12.1	576	13.0
3	44,622	729	16.3	65	89	3	2	6.9	579	13.0
4	44,565	728	16.3	44	60	1	5	8.2	587	13.2
5	44,622	704	15.8	45	64	1	1	3.0	540	12.1
6	44,740	686	15.3	53	77	2	1	4.4	551	12.5
7	44,947	715	15.9	48	67	2	6	11.2	553	12.3
8	45,421	764	16.8	41	54	1	5	7.9	552	12.2
9	46,579	758	16.3	51	67	—	3	4.0	590	12.7
1940	44,660	682	14.5	44	65	—	6	8.8	632	14.2
1	44,100	722	15.1	40	55	—	5	6.9	542	12.3
2	43,300	736	15.4	48	65	—	7	9.5	551	12.7
3	42,367	767	16.1	35	46	—	2	2.6	564	13.3
4	42,461	823	17.1	29	35	—	3	3.6	551	13.0
5	42,929	697	14.5	28	40	—	3	4.3	530	12.3
6	45,656	964	20.1	44	46	—	—	—	578	12.7
7	47,897	1,102	23.0	58	53	—	4	3.6	631	13.2
8	48,671	980	20.1	33	34	—	3	3.0	573	11.8
9	49,000	887	18.1	47	53	—	1	1.1	592	12.1
1950	49,425	896	18.1	37	41	—	2	1.1	672	13.6
1	49,230	923	18.7	33	36	—	—	—	645	13.1
2	49,424	810	16.4	31	38	—	1	1.2	588	11.9
3	50,119	840	16.8	24	29	—	—	—	535	10.7
4	50,520	938	18.6	24	26	—	2	2.13	624	12.4
5	51,093	856	16.8	27	32	—	1	1.2	553	10.8
6	51,475	901	17.5	23	26	—	—	—	551	10.7
7	51,825	946	18.3	22	23	—	—	—	564	10.9
8	52,061	1,017	19.5	20	20	—	1	0.98	524	10.1
9	52,407	958	18.3	15	16	—	—	—	568	10.8
1960	52,515	874	16.6	14	16	—	—	—	520	9.9
1	52,644	981	18.6	21	21	—	—	—	597	11.3
2	52,697	967	18.4	24	25	—	—	—	551	10.5
3	52,638	942	17.9	15	16	—	—	—	612	11.6
4	51,996	848	16.3	19	22	—	—	—	609	11.7
5	51,917	923	17.8	19	21	—	—	—	584	11.2
6	51,886	875	16.9	15	17	—	—	—	601	11.6
7	52,102	917	17.6	19	21	—	—	—	559	10.7
8	52,125	913	17.5	17	18	—	1	1.0	551	10.6
9	52,097	869	16.7	16	18	—	—	—	652	12.5
1970	52,075	769	14.8	15	20	—	—	—	608	11.7
1	50,091	806	16.1	23	29	—	—	—	579	11.6
2	49,871	665	13.3	21	32	—	1	1.0	624	12.5
3	49,700	653	13.1	11	17	—	—	—	636	12.8

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA*

Population (Registrar General's mid-year estimate 1973) 49,700

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Kirkcaldy</i>
Live Births	351	302	653	
Birth Rate (Births per 1,000 population)				13.1
Illegitimate Births			81	
Percentage illegitimate per 100 live-births				12.4
Deaths of infants under one year	6	5	11	
Infant Mortality Rate (Deaths per 1,000 live-births)				16.8
Number of Still-Births	5	4	9	
Still-Birth Rate (Still-births per 1,000 live and still-births)				13.6
Perinatal Deaths	8	9	17	
(Still-births and those dying in first week of life)				
Perinatal Death Rates (Still-births and those dying in first week per 1,000 live and still births)				25.7
Deaths (all ages)	332	304	636	
Death Rate per 1,000 population				12.8
Maternal Deaths	—	—	—	
Maternal Death Rate per 1,000 total live and still-births				—

* Estimated

PERINATAL DEATH RATES OVER LAST 21 YEARS

Year	Live Births	Still-Births	Deaths under 1 week	Peri-natal Death Rate
1950	896	27	12	42.2
1951	923	22	18	42.3
1952	810	25	18	51.5
1953	840	20	13	38.3
1954	938	32	13	46.4
1955	856	27	11	43.0
1956	901	21	15	39.0
1957	945	20	16	37.2
1958	1,017	35	12	44.6
1959	958	23	8	31.6
1960	874	24	5	32.3
1961	981	25	13	37.7
1962	967	22	12	34.3
1963	942	17	9	27.1
1964	848	18	7	28.9
1965	923	16	8	25.6
1966	875	10	9	21.5
1967	917	9	11	21.6
1968	913	12	10	23.7
1969	869	6	7	14.8
1970	769	17	8	31.8
1971	806	11	10	25.7
1972	665	17	12	42.5
1973	653	9	8	25.7

Number of Infant Deaths

	M.	F.
Under 1 week	3	5
1 to 2 weeks	1	—
2 to 3 weeks	—	—
3 to 4 weeks	—	—
4 weeks to 3 months	1	—
3 months to 6 months	—	—
6 months to 9 months	1	—
9 months to 12 months	—	—
TOTAL	6	5

Certified Causes of Infant Deaths

	Under 4 weeks		4 weeks to 1 year	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
Prematurity	3	1	1	—
Congenital Heart Disease	1	—	—	—
Respiratory Distress Syndrome	—	2	—	—
Gastro Enteritis	—	—	1	—
Infanticide	—	1	—	—
Congenital Malformation Central Nervous System	—	1	—	—

Obesity Clinic 1973

Total Number who attended	107
Total Number of attendances	642

PHYSIOTHERAPY 1973

	Domiciliary			Abden Home	Denend Home
	—15 yrs.	15 – 64	65+		
No. of cases brought forward	13	14	21	5	25
No. of new cases	12	29	136	1	2
Total No. of cases	25	43	157	6	27
No. of cases discontinued	15	34	137	5	26
Total No. of Treatments	351	416	917	63	628

1973 ANNUAL REPORT

ANNEX A

The brief summary relating to the school year August, 1972/73, is given herewith:

	<i>Boys</i>	<i>Girls</i>	<i>Total</i>
Number of parents present at medical inspection:			
(a) with entrant infants	362	294	656
(b) with others (second age group)	—	—	—
Number of examinations:			
Entrants	427	362	789
Second age group	—	—	—
Third age group	424	432	856
Fourth age group	14	—	14
Re-examinations	36	17	53
Special Examinations	189	146	335
Vision Testing (6-7 years)	367	400	767
„ „ (9 years)	416	412	828
	<u>1,873</u>	<u>1,769</u>	<u>3,642</u>

Number of children examined by School Nurse	21,513
Clean	21,159
Nits or head vermin	354
Special Clinics – Eye	20

MILK APPLICATIONS

<i>No. of applications</i>	<i>No. granted</i>	<i>No. refused</i>
41	38	3

1973 REPORT

ANNEX A

	<i>Boys</i>	<i>Girls</i>	<i>Total</i>
Forms Y.9 issued in 1973/74	62	9	71
Bronchitis	1	—	1
Asthma	15	—	15
Colour Blindness	26	—	26
Eczema	2	—	2
Epileptic	4	1	5
Mental Retardation	5	4	9
Defective Hearing	5	2	7
Defective Vision	3	1	4
Arthritis	—	1	1
Skin Allergy	1	—	1
Forms Y.10 issued in 1973/74	4	1	5

Eleven school leavers were notified by the School Medical Officer to the Education Authority under Section 66 of the Education (Scotland) Act, 1966.

NURSES' HYGIENE INSPECTIONS AND MONTHLY REPORT

ANNEX A

Condition	School Health Service		Nursery Class		Treatment by Nurse		
	1	2	3	4	At Home New Cases	In Clinics New Cases	Total attendance
	No. of new cases with defect	No. of cases in Col. 1 followed-up by home visits	New cases with defect	No. of cases in Col. 3 followed-up by home visits			
Head Vermin	354	245	1	1	17	—	17
Body Vermin	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ringworm (Scalp)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scabies	89	62	—	—	—	—	—
Uncleanliness or Neglect	24	17	—	—	—	—	—
Impetigo contagiosa	41	27	—	—	—	—	—
Other Skin conditions	141	19	—	—	—	—	—
Otorrhoea	5	4	1	—	—	—	—
Eye Disease (external)	11	2	1	1	—	—	—
Ear Cases	21	4	3	—	—	—	—
Nose and Throat Cases	16	1	2	—	—	—	—
Other Cases	264	172	—	—	2	—	2
Cuts and Bruises	87	3	1	—	—	—	—
Septic conditions	37	19	—	—	—	—	—
(Accidents)	18	3	—	—	—	—	—
(Advisory Cases)	118	13	4	1	—	—	—
TOTAL	1,226	591	13	3	19	—	19

Total No. of children seen at inspection 21,513
Total No. Re-inspected (i.e., children with defect at a previous inspection) 751

DEPARTMENT OF SANITARY AND CLEANSING
TOWN HOUSE,
KIRKCALDY.

November, 1973

To the SECRETARY OF STATE FOR SCOTLAND AND THE PRO-
VOST, MAGISTRATES AND COUNCILLORS OF THE ROYAL
BURGH OF KIRKCALDY.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for the year 1972 on the general sanitary conditions of the Burgh and the work performed by the Sanitary and Cleansing Departments during the year.

This report has been compiled in accordance with the terms of the Scottish Home and Health Department Circular No. LHAS 13/1972.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN H. IRVINE

Chief Sanitary Inspector

GENERAL STATISTICS

Rateable Value of Burgh at 16th May, 1972	£3,005,207
Population estimated 30th June, 1972	49,871
Area of Burgh in Acres	5,503
Mileage of Streets	97.24
Number of Inhabited Houses	17,978

STAFF

<i>Sanitary Inspector</i>	JOHN H. IRVINE, M.R.S.H., M.Inst.P.C.
<i>Depute Sanitary Inspector</i>	ROBERT EASSON
<i>Assistant Sanitary Inspectors</i>	JOSEPH OATES, A.R.S.H. JAMES T. GOOD MICHAEL WALLACE, M.R.S.H. ALLAN R. MACPHEE, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I. BRIAN DONNET, M.R.S.H. ANDREW ROBERTSON (appointed 13/11/72)
<i>Apprentice Sanitary Inspector</i>	JOHN ADAMS

HOUSING

1. General Progress

This was a poor year for houses constructed by the local authority, only a total of 93 being completed, the lowest figure since 1968. However, it was again a good year for house building in the private sector, the total of 165 being slightly up on last year and only one short of the previous highest figure achieved in 1965.

No houses were built by the local authority for police or fire services during the year. The houses completed by the local authority were located as follows:

Patterson Street	.	.	.	.	10
Oswald Road	.	.	.	.	83

both of these areas are redevelopment areas.

During the year 8 houses were closed in terms of Section 15, Housing (Scotland) Act, 1966, of which 5 were subjects of Demolition Orders and three subjects of Closing Orders. In addition the Council passed Housing Treatment Area Resolutions in terms of Section 4 of the Housing (Scotland) Act, 1969 in respect of two areas:

Victoria Road Area No. 1	.	.	.	30 houses
Park Road Area	.	.	.	26 houses

Both areas to be dealt with by demolition of all the buildings in the area. A further 110 houses were closed voluntarily by the owners and 49 houses were closed in the Sinclairtown Redevelopment Area.

A total of 358 condemned houses were demolished during the year.

Of the new houses completed by the Council, 26 were 2 apartments, 8 were 3 apartments and 59 were 4 apartments. Allocated to these houses were 9 families from sub-standard houses, 8 from overcrowded houses, 23 were health cases, 4 were homeless and 40 were decants, transfers or priority lets.

In the re-letting of existing Council houses 76 tenants came from sub-standard houses, 33 from overcrowded houses, 80 were health cases, 253 were homeless or young families living in sub-let accommodation, and 223 were decants, transfers or priority lets – a total of 665 re-lets. Forty-five of these re-lets occurred in property acquired and modernised by the Council in the Sinclairtown Redevelopment Area.

The Burgh Factor's waiting list for houses showed a gradual increase throughout the year starting in January at a figure of 772 and by the end of December had reached 850. At the end of the year the composition of the waiting list was as follows: Homeless 393, of whom 24 have two or more children and 147 are in furnished let accommodation; 69 health cases; 100 overcrowded families; 201 families in houses below

the tolerable standard and 87 long term applicants. There are also 149 elderly applicants and another 515 applicants in houses which meet the tolerable standard. It is of interest to note that there were 549 marriages in the town during the year.

There has been a marked increase in the interest shown in housing improvement grants because of the current 75% grant available until 23rd June, 1974. Following the six day exhibition on housing improvements held by the local authority in the month of January there was a steady flow of enquiries throughout the year. House to house surveys were carried out in Forth Avenue, Ava Street and David Street to encourage improvement of the sub-standard houses in these areas and the sanitary inspectors explained fully to the householders the benefits of housing improvements. As a result of these visits an encouraging number of applications for grant have been made from these areas. In total 151 Discretionary Grants and 18 Standard Grants were approved, which is a 150% increase on the previous year.

Eighty-two housing reports were prepared in relation to S.D.A.A. or Housing Act Loan enquiries and as a result 61 loans were granted.

No applications for Certificates of Disrepair were received while six qualification certificates were granted.

A total of 400 plans for housing improvements or alterations were reported on, in relation to plans submitted to the Burgh Engineer in terms of the Building Regulations. Six thousand visits were made by inspectors to houses for various purposes under the Housing Acts. This figure includes a total of 3,246 tenement type and older houses re-surveyed during the latter half of the year in order to update our information in relation to the Tolerable Standard. The information from this survey is now being collated, the houses being classified under three categories:

- (a) Above Tolerable Standard – Houses which meet the twelve point discretionary grant standard;
- (b) Tolerable Standard – Houses meeting the maximum standard detailed in Section 2(2) of the Housing (Scotland) Act, 1969;
- (c) Below Tolerable Standard – Houses below the minimum standard.

It is my view that any proposed programme to deal with the closure or modernisation of existing houses must include the houses under category (b) as well as category (c).

2. Milk Supply

There are 3 dairy farms registered within the Burgh, all of which produce Standard milk which is consigned to the S.M.M.B. at Glenrothes. All 3 farms remained in full production throughout the year. There was an average of 233 cows on the premises and the average daily output from these farms was 712 gallons. In addition there is one beef

rearing farm, exempt from registration where a small amount of milk is produced for household purposes only and for feeding to calves. Regular visits were made to the dairy farms for milk sampling and for routine inspections. The general cleanliness of premises and equipment was found to be satisfactory and this was reflected in the results of milk samples taken, all of which complied with the prescribed Regulations.

Details of Dairy Premises registered and licensed in 1972 were as follows:

Dairy byres capable of housing 233 cows	3
Milk retailers retailing within the burgh	9
Retail shops selling bottled, cartoned or sachet milk	87
Producers and wholesalers who do not sell by retail	4

3. Milk (Special Designations) Orders

The following licences were in operation in the Burgh during 1972:

Dealers licensed to sell standard milk (wholesale only)	1
Producers licensed to produce standard milk	3
Dealers licensed to sell Premium Milk	1
Dealers licensed to sell Pasteurised Milk	89
Dealers licensed to sell Standard Milk	1

In addition retailers outwith the Burgh held the following licences:

Supplementary licences to sell Premium Milk	3
Supplementary licences to sell Pasteurised Milk	6
Supplementary licences to sell Standard Milk	2
Supplementary licences to sell Sterilised Milk	1

To ensure compliance with the Regulations the undernoted milks were submitted to the Fife District Laboratory, Victoria Hospital, Kirkcaldy:

	<i>Number</i>	<i>Conformed</i>	<i>Failed</i>
U.H.T. Milk	5	5	—
Premium Milk	4	3	1
Standard Milk	6	6	—
Pasteurised Milk	84	68	16
	<u>99</u>	<u>82</u>	<u>17</u>

The breakdown of premises from which samples were taken are as follows:

Dairy	13
Shops	69
Retail Vans	10
Schools	1
Dispensing Machines	4
Works Canteens	2

Of the samples that failed, the grades and sources of the sample failures are as follows:

Pasteurised	17	—	12 samples from shops
			2 samples from dairies
			1 sample from van
			2 samples from works canteens

Seventeen milk samples did not conform to the prescribed tests. Twelve samples had coliform organisms present; three samples failed the phosphatase test; the remaining two sample failures resulted from a complaint of pasteurised milk delivered to a works canteen in one gallon cans which were found to be in a dirty condition. The complaint was fully justified as both results showed high bacterial counts and the presence of coliform organisms. Two of the phosphatase failures were from milk produced locally and resulted from a defective temperature control valve.

Pasteurisers

Following upon the closure of one of the S.C.W.S. Limited Pasteurising Plants within the Burgh, the run down of daily milk output from the existing Creamery continued when the supply of schools milk within the Burgh was transferred to another Creamery outwith the Burgh. The daily output from the existing Creamery was reduced by 200 gallons and the final daily output for the year was 2,300 gallons.

A local producer who cancelled his standard licence and installed a pasteurising plant towards the end of the previous year had a daily output of 700 gallons of pasteurised milk. Of this amount 236 gallons was supplied in cartons to 36 shops within the Burgh, whilst the remaining 464 gallons was sold by retail from 5 modern delivery vans. The decline of the sale of standard milk within the Burgh was reflected in the cancellation of 28 standard milk licences during the year and a corresponding increase in the number of dealer's pasteurised licences. Both pasteurising plants operated satisfactorily throughout the year.

4. Food and Drugs (Scotland) Act, 1956

Throughout 1972 a total of 190 samples were submitted to the Public Analyst in Dundee for examination.

This total consists of 13 formal samples, one of which was proved to be non-genuine, and 177 informal samples, 29 of which were found to be non-genuine. Details of the samples are listed below.

	Number Examined	Number Non-genuine
Butter	5	1
Cheese	1	—
Cream	4	1
Curry	3	—
Dried Fruit	3	—

Fish & Fish Products	9	1
Flavouring	1	—
Fruit Juice	6	2
Honey	3	—
Ice Cream	8	3
Jam	8	1
Low Fat Spread	1	—
Margarine	1	—
Meat & Fish Spreads	4	2
Meat Products	23	8
Milk	54	4
Mince	24	4
Pie	2	1
Salads	1	—
Sauces & Pickles	6	1
Sausages	3	1
Soft Drinks	7	1
Soup	1	—
Spirits	10	—
Tea	1	—
Vegetables	1	—
Miscellaneous	3	—
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	190	31
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Sixteen informal spirit samples were taken and tested in the department laboratory by members of the staff.

Milk Fifty-four unofficial samples of milk were taken during the year. Four of these proved to be unsatisfactory. These appeared to be the results of human errors. Follow-up samples proved to be satisfactory.

Ice Cream Eight unofficial samples of ice cream were taken. Three of these samples were non-genuine due to the fact that no 'non-milk fat content' notices were displayed. These matters were immediately rectified upon intimation of the contravention to those businesses not complying.

Mince Twenty-three informal samples of mince were taken throughout the year and three were found to be unsatisfactory. As a result of these unsatisfactory samples two formal samples were taken and one was again found to be non-genuine due to the presence of sulphur dioxide outwith the permitted period of June to September. A satisfactory explanation was received from the butcher concerned as to the presence of the preservative.

Sausages One informal sample of sausages was taken and was found to be unsatisfactory. Two formal samples were taken and both proved satisfactory.

Spirits Ten formal spirit samples were taken throughout the year and all were found to be satisfactory. Sixteen informal spirit samples were taken and found to be satisfactory.

Sweetened Grapefruit Juice Three different brands of imported grapefruit juices were found to contain lead either on the limit permitted of 2 p.p.m. or were above it. Several samples of various grapefruit juices were taken throughout the town and all the results were sent to the Scottish Department of Health for correlations with other authorities.

Soy Sauce A sample of Soy Sauce was taken and was found to contravene the Preservatives in Food (Scotland) Regulations. Correspondence is still being held with the importers to correct the fault.

Tinned Chicken Imported brand of tinned chicken found to contain excessive level of skin. Importers were written to and it appears there had been a mistake in the ingredients. Subsequent samples of different brands of tinned chicken were found to be satisfactory.

Honey The Public Analyst considered a tin of Hungarian Acacia Honey to be misleading in that his analysis did not reveal true acacia pollen grains. Correspondence with the importers showed that a form of acacia does grow in Hungary, hence the sample was satisfactory.

Pizza Pie A sample of Pizza Pie did not conform to the Labelling of Food (Scotland) Regulations, 1970. After correspondence with the manufacturer he agreed to change the wrapping of the pie to conform with the Regulations.

Cream A sample of fresh double cream was found to be low in milk fat content but this was eventually explained satisfactorily, by the manufacturer who has taken steps to prevent recurrence.

Butter A sample of butter taken during 1972 which was found to contravene the 1966 Butter Regulations in that the curd content was 25% above the permitted maximum. Subsequent results of similar samples proved to be satisfactory.

Blackcurrant Jam A sample of 'home-made' blackcurrant jam retailed locally was found to contravene the Food Standards (Preserves) Order, 1953, in that it was deficient in soluble solids to the extent of 3.05%. This problem was resolved by correspondence.

General Remarks This year there was an increase in the number of informal samples which were found to be non-genuine – 29; and non-genuine formal samples – 1. Much of this increase could be accounted for by imported food not complying with British Food regulations.

With increase variety of foodstuffs on display in the shops many articles of food are being imported or are being manufactured by small firms, where consideration of the regulations is not being given,

As Britain is about to enter Europe it is to be presumed that the variety and quantity of continental foodstuffs on display in shops in the town will increase. Increased attention must be paid to these new products to ensure that they comply with the various labelling, compositional, preservative and colouring regulations.

Of the other samples of food taken most were marginal contraventions. All of which later complied after the contravention was intimated and follow-up samples which were taken proved to be satisfactory.

5. Food Premises and Food Hygiene

A total of 1,430 inspections were made to food premises during 1972, including 479 inspections of mobile shops and delivery vehicles. This compares with 1,132 inspections during 1971.

There is a growing public awareness and concern regarding food hygiene in all its aspects, instanced by the increasing number of food complaints despite continually rising standards and this tendency is most welcome.

Of the many complaints received the majority emanated once more from foodstuffs affected with mould indicating stock rotation and storage methods. Several complaints were also made regarding extraneous foreign bodies often insectile in nature. A roll prover in a local bakery which had been found to be a source of flour moth infestation intermittently over the years consequently providing a locus for both adult and larval stages of this insect to gain access to rolls, was dismantled and removed by the management.

Protracted legal proceedings instituted initially in 1971 against a restaurateur were successfully concluded during 1972 and the premises then closed down.

Many written intimations were sent to proprietors in respect of legal deficiencies and verbal advice was given in a large number of cases.

A detailed survey of butchery premises was conducted during the year in order to achieve a uniformly high standard throughout. Among shortcomings brought to light, particularly in older premises were, inadequate supplies of hot water, limited refrigerated storage, extensive use of unsatisfactory wooden wall linings and floorings, and frequently the provision of only one slicing machine for both raw and cooked meats.

Excellent co-operation was received from the trade during the survey and all necessary works should be completed during the coming year.

The wholesale merchandising of food from cash and carry premises in the burgh presented several problems throughout the year, in the main due to their increased involvement with medium and short life products such as bakery and butchery small goods.

This service is undoubtedly appreciated by retailers as is reflected by the considerable growth in this area but unfortunately some of the attendant problems remain unremedied.

It is felt that foodstuffs with a shelf life of 2-3 weeks can be successfully handled by a cash and carry type of operation only if great care is given to stock rotation but that it is tempting providence more than a little to stock meat products with a life of 3 days, sell them to retailers with this period all but expired, then hope that customers of these retailers get a consistently high quality article.

With the ever widening use by food manufacturing companies of 'sell by' open date codes however it is anticipated that the situation will improve with time.

The Department, along with some other public health authorities and the media, can take some degree of satisfaction from their efforts in this direction having been largely instrumental in bringing about forthcoming legislation governing the date marking of short life pre-packed foods.

Links Market All food stalls and vans were inspected under the Food Hygiene (Scotland) Regulations, 1959-66. Fewer stalls and vans were in evidence than in previous years but generally those in attendance complied with the Regulations.

Among contraventions noted, the most common was failure to provide names and addresses on stalls and occasionally continuous supplies of hot water were found lacking.

The Showman's Guild was notified of these defects and advised to notify their members.

6. Unsound Food

Regular weekly visits continued to be made to wholesale grocery warehouses throughout the town, apart from random inspections for the purpose of detecting and condemning unsound food. Some 354 inspections were made resulting in the undernoted foodstuffs being voluntarily surrendered for destruction, mainly by burial at the refuse tip.

	<i>lbs.</i>	<i>ozs.</i>
Canned Fruit	5,776	3 $\frac{1}{4}$
Fresh Vegetables	60	0
Canned Vegetables	2,745	14
Canned Fish	20	4 $\frac{3}{4}$
Canned Meat	2,960	4
Canned Meat and Vegetables	3	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
Canned Milk and Cream	34	12
Canned Soup	2,675	12 $\frac{1}{2}$
Jam	12	0

Canned Pudding	197	9½
Miscellaneous	271	4½
	<u>14,757</u>	<u>8</u>

In the course of the year the complete stock of 12 frozen food cabinets were inspected due to mechanical breakdown and as a result large amounts were removed for disposal. In addition to this a large amount of food was removed for destruction due to fire damage. Another large amount was also removed due to damage by drainage effluent.

7. Meat Inspection

The major work of modernisation of the slaughterhouse having been completed it was disappointing to find that when application was made for approval to export meat to EEC that a number of defects existed. During the official inspection in connection with this approval the main defect related to the floor of the cooling hall which was adjudged to be too badly worn in certain parts and could not be properly cleansed. There were a number of other minor matters relating to defects in yard surface, wall surfaces of lairage and screening and repairs to certain doors to prevent access of birds. It was decided to completely re-lay the floor of the cooling hall in granolithic concrete and the cost of this plus the other works totalling £3,675 was approved by the Health Committee.

The throughput of animals is again slightly down on the previous year's figures, at this stage it is not possible to say whether this reflects a reduced demand due to rising meat prices.

MEAT INSPECTION

**Meat found to be unfit for human consumption during the year
ended 31st December, 1972**

	Cattle excluding Calves	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	TOTAL
1. TUBERCULOSIS					
(a) Whole carcasses unfit	1	—	—	—	1
(b) Carcasses of which some part was unfit	—	—	—	133	133
(c) Organs only unfit	11	—	—	79	90
2. CYSTICERCOSIS					
(a) Whole carcasses unfit	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Carcasses affected but passed after treatment by refrigeration	5	—	—	—	5
3. ACTINOBACILLOSIS AND ACTINOMYCOSIS					
(a) Whole carcasses unfit	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Carcasses of which some part was unfit	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Organs only unfit	76	—	—	2	78
4. TRICHINOSIS					
Whole carcasses unfit	—	—	—	—	—
5. SEPTICAEMIA (fevered carcasses)					
Whole carcasses unfit	2	—	—	1	3
6. BRUISING AND INJURY					
(a) Whole carcasses unfit	—	1	9	—	10
(b) Carcasses of which some part was unfit	17	—	9	12	38
7. ALL OTHER CONDITIONS					
(a) Whole carcasses unfit	13	4	16	15	48
(b) Carcasses of which some part was unfit	16	—	103	166	285
(c) Organs only unfit	3,657	—	1,711	722	6,090
8. Total items 1 to 7 above excluding the figures at 2(b) of item 2	3,793	5	2,748	1,130	7,676
9. Total number of animals inspected during the year at the slaughterhouse	8,785	46	20,020	6,895	35,746

Total weight of carcase meat condemned. 16,460 lbs.

Total weight of organs and viscera condemned 45,951 lbs.

Weight of poultry condemned 86 lbs.

8. Ice Cream Premises

The following premises and vehicles were registered by Kirkcaldy Town Council in the terms of the Ice Cream (Scotland) Regulations, 1948, at 31st December, 1972:

Premises (Manufacture, Storage and/or Sale)	4
Premises (Manufacture and Storage)	4
Premises (Storage and Sale)	8
Vehicles (Sale only)	24
Vehicles (Manufacture, Storage and Sale)	1

Thirty-six visits were made to manufacturing and retailing premises for the purpose of ascertaining the hygienic standards current in the various premises and generally apart from minor items of maintenance good standards prevailed.

Two pasteurisation plants now operate in the burgh. A new unit replaced an existing plant in one of these premises. This unit which is quite small and compact is capable of carrying out the various stages of manufacture, i.e. mixing, pasteurising and ageing without transferring the ice cream to different plant sections. The remainder operate a cold dry mix.

Ice cream vehicles were inspected throughout the year with only minor recurring faults being noted. These are attended to promptly as a result of verbal intimation.

Premises and vans were visited for the purpose of bacteriological sampling and 111 samples were taken during the year. Thirty-one of these samples proved to be unsatisfactory. Faults were traced in each case, and subsequent samples taken proved to be satisfactory.

One interesting case which arose was traced to a sterilising agent which was being used beyond the date recommended by the manufacturer.

Bacteriological Range	No.	No. with Coliform Bacilli
0 — 500	5	—
501 — 1,000	42	2
1,001 — 5,000	26	6
5,001 — 10,000	7	—
10,001 — 15,000	8	4
15,001 — 25,000	8	4
25,001 — 50,000	2	2
50,001 and over	12	8
Uncountable	1	1
TOTALS	111	27

Other samples of ice cream were taken and submitted for analysis in terms of the Ice Cream (Scotland) Regulations, 1970. These are dealt with under the Food and Drugs section of the Annual Report.

9. Shops Act

Throughout the year a total of 782 inspections were made of shop premises. In most cases, visits made under the Act were in conjunction with visits under other legal enactments.

During the year there were 51 plans submitted to the Dean of Guild Court relating to alterations to existing premises, or proposals for new shop premises.

Several written and verbal enquiries were made regarding general shop hours and in all cases advice was given.

Again over the Christmas and New Year period the Council made an Order suspending the general closing hours and obligation to close on the weekly half-holiday.

10. PLACES OF PUBLIC REFRESHMENT

At the end of 1972 there were 20 premises on the register of Places of Public Refreshment. This shows an increase of three from the previous year. There were no other changes.

Plans submitted containing proposals for alterations or improvement for hotels or public houses were 5, concerning licensed clubs 7. All proposals concerning plans were accepted and embodied in the proposals.

Throughout the year there were a total of 109 visits made to Places of Public Refreshment.

GENERAL SANITATION

11. Nuisances and Sanitary Defects

During the year some 583 complaints were dealt with by the Department. Those of a trivial nature were quickly rectified as usual without further trouble. Complaints involved some 1,487 visits and re-visits being made throughout the year.

The number of intimations served in relation to nuisances throughout the year amounted to 202.

The following table lists the number and type of nuisance dealt with:

1. Dirty houses and premises	11
2. Dirty W.C. apartments cleansed	2
3. Dirty stairs and passages cleansed	7

4.	Dirty areas and courts cleaned	14
5.	Dampness in houses abated or improved	46
6.	Defective tubs, sinks, wash-hand basins and baths	7
7.	Defective W.C.s repaired or renewed	5
8.	Defective W.C. apartments	5
9.	Defective rhones, waste pipes, etc.	3
10.	Defective roofs, repaired or renewed	2
11.	Defective floors repaired or renewed	1
12.	Choked drains or traps cleared	70
13.	General housing defects	9
14.	Accumulations of rubbish removed	145
15.	Nuisances caused by hens, dogs or cats	7
16.	Nuisances caused by pigeons	45
17.	Verminous houses sprayed	3
18.	Other insect pest conditions treated	20
19.	Miscellaneous nuisances	161
20.	Wasps nests treated	20
		<hr/>
		583
		<hr/>

Throughout the year piggeries and stables received some 61 visits. No serious nuisance was found to exist.

Paddling pools in regular use were again visited regularly in order to supervise cleaning and conduct.

The dust nuisance arising from the storage of ash for breeze block manufacture has now abated with the firm concerned having secured the lease of additional ground for the storage of these ashes.

During the year whilst samples of seawater were being collected from the foreshore a sewer pipe thought to be out of use was found to be discharging above the low water mark. The information was passed to Burgh Engineer for the necessary remedial measures.

Nuisance of smell and flies arose in the summer months arising from the storage of fish offal in a metal skip prior to the skip being removed when full. This nuisance was quickly resolved when contact was made with the owner of the skip.

The annual visit of the Links Market as usual presented no problems or nuisance.

12. Rats and Mice

The undernoted table represents the work undertaken by the Department to curtail the activity of rodent pests on land and in premises within the Burgh:

Number of properties inspected	745
Number found infested with rats and mice	73
Number cleared of rats and mice	60

Total estimated kill of rats	213
Total estimated kill of mice	546
Income from services at private properties	£13-33

Surveys of Balbarton Tip during August revealed an unusually high number of rat traces. A comprehensive baiting programme was immediately undertaken resulting over the next three months in the estimated elimination of 300 rats. Regular twice-weekly surveys are now carried out at Balbarton Tip and it would appear that the rodent population is now at a minimum.

Abden Home continued to be surveyed regularly by the pest operator and only the occasional mouse was caught in the buildings. Nearer the end of the year however, evidence of rats was found in a bin store. Baits were laid and the nuisance consequently eradicated.

Rat baits had to be laid in the vicinity of Pathhead Beach. The problem arose when rats were seen feeding on grain sweepings dumped from a maltings situated on the foreshore. The firm now have an alternative arrangement to dispose of grain sweepings and the rodent problem has been reduced.

The area of the Tiel Burn from Pratt Street to the Foreshore continues to be regularly surveyed and any probable rat infestation is immediately brought under control.

All food premises in the Burgh were thoroughly checked for the presence of rats and mice. Although there was the occasional mouse problem in many of the food establishments in the town it was evident the mouse population was on the increase in the central area. This particular problem could be attributed to:

- (a) the excessive amount of building work in the area;
- (b) the construction and age of the property;
- (c) the comparatively mild winters of the previous two years.

However, it is gratifying to hear that many of the establishments affected by rodents have undertaken measures, i.e. the employment of reputable pest control companies, to eliminate vermin from their premises.

13. Infectious Diseases

This year there was a significant decrease in the number of infectious diseases. This decrease can be accounted for by the fact that there was no outbreak of food poisoning this year.

The total number of infectious diseases requiring investigation totalled 293 cases. This figure comprised:

Dysentery.	178	Gastro-Enteritis.	60
Food poisoning.	18	Diarrhoea	31
Scarlet Fever	4	Hepatitis	1
Jaundice	1		

14. Port Health Inspections

There was a further fall in the number of foreign arrivals calling at the Port of Kirkcaldy during 1972. A total of 72 vessels arriving as opposed to 79 in the previous year.

Forty-six shipping inspections were carried out in respect of these vessels and four de-ratting exemption certificates were granted.

Once again wood pulp and grain constituted the majority of incoming cargoes.

15. Water Supply

Throughout 1972 forty samples of drinking water were taken from domestic and commercial premises in order to establish their chemical and bacteriological purity. In addition one sample of well water was taken.

<i>Type of Sample</i>	<i>No. Taken</i>	<i>Satisfactory</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory</i>
Chemical	12	11	1
Bacteriological	28	15	13
Miscellaneous (Bacteriological)	1	—	1

The only unsatisfactory chemical water sample was the last of a series of samples taken from a tenemental block of domestic and commercial premises during the year. Failure was due to the slightly higher than permissible level of lead in this sample (i.e. lead content was 0.06 p.p.m. as against permissible maximum of 0.05 p.p.m.). As the premises concerned were built about the turn of the century most of the water piping and storage facilities were constructed in lead and it would appear that the contamination occurred after the mains supply entered the premises. Other chemical samples taken from the premises were entirely free from traces of lead, copper or zinc. The concurrent series of bacteriological samples taken from these premises proved highly unsatisfactory. From a total of 14 samples, 13 proved unsatisfactory. The original reason for sampling drinking water from this tenement was a request by the landlords for qualification certificates in respect of the dwelling houses here. Routine investigations revealed that the majority of the houses here did not have a direct mains supply. Further investigation showed that each of these houses was served only by a shallow uncovered storage tank. These unsatisfactory results, combined with other defects, led to the department's refusal of qualification certificates and our request to the landlords to take remedial measures. This matter was continued into 1973.

During the period of the Links Market eleven chemical and bacteriological samples were taken from the temporary standpipes which were set up for the use of the showpeople. All results were found to be satisfactory.

Among complaints lodged in the course of the year was one concerning the water supply to a soft drinks vending machine in an educational establishment in Kirkcaldy. Routine samples were submitted for analysis, both chemical and bacteriological. The results were somewhat perturbing however as the failure of both samples indicated two completely unconnected faults in this water supply. Investigation, after the bacteriological failure, revealed that the vending machine was served by a poorly protected storage tank on the roof. This tank was found to be contaminated by dead birds, leaves and dirt. Remedial measures resulted in the cleaning of the tank and the provision of protective covers and screening. The unsatisfactory result of chemical sample revealed the presence of a high concentration of copper in the water. It was discovered that the citric acid in the soft drink syrup was splashing on to the interior of the copper supply pipe within the machine. This caused corrosion with the resultant copper salts being washed from the supply pipe into the soft drinks. This was remedied by substituting polythene tubing in place of the copper piping.

Another complaint concerned the discoloured, gelatinous nature of the water supply in a hairdresser's premises. Results of analysis indicated that this was a condition not unknown in, and almost peculiar to, hairdressing premises. An interaction between hair lacquer spray in the atmosphere and the water combined with the above average heating, had led to a heavy build-up of algae in an uncovered water storage tank. The situation however was satisfactorily concluded when the hairdresser moved to new premises.

Two other complaints regarding water supply were received from the public. Subsequent sampling and investigation revealed that the condition complained of was of a temporary nature.

As is the department's practice, routine chemical and bacteriological water samples were taken from various sources and at varying times throughout the burgh. All of these samples proved to be satisfactory.

The water shortage which occurred in 1972 was instrumental in bringing an unusual request to the department. A local farmer, envisaging that water rationing was possible, asked the department to sample a disused well on his farm so that he could have an alternative supply of water for his cattle should restrictions be introduced. Unfortunately despite his foresight the sample proved to be highly unsuitable.

16. Factories

There are 281 premises registered in the Burgh, and 133 inspections were made to ensure compliance with the standards laid down by the Act. In several instances, proprietors were written to and re-visits were made to check on the necessary requirements.

Plans were submitted and approved for the erection of 2 new factories and 41 other plans for various alterations of factories were also approved.

17. Clean Air Acts

While there still remains two hand-fired coal burning large boiler plants all other industrial coal burning appliances within the burgh are mechanically stoked. Although oil fired installations within the Burgh are not entirely blameless, the majority of contraventions of the Clean Air Act, 1956 (i.e. emissions of dark and black smoke for longer than the permitted periods) occur in premises where coal fired appliances exist. On investigation, it is invariably found that the boiler plant operator is also responsible for other duties on the premises and is consequently unable to give the plant the amount of attention required to maintain it at peak efficiency.

A large wood-waste burning appliance in one factory continued to be a source of irritation and was the subject of much investigation and observation. It is recognised however that, as this plant is almost unique in the United Kingdom, special problems do arise. This situation was still unresolved at the end of 1972.

The open burning of vehicle bodies and tyres on an industrial estate was the cause of several complaints from the public. Several observations were made and the persons responsible were warned that they were contravening the Clean Air Act. No suitable apparatus for the incineration of such materials exist within the Burgh.

Several complaints were received concerning the emission of black, offensive smoke from a small coal fired boiler in a hairdresser's shop. This problem was investigated and the matter was continued into 1973.

It is unfortunate that local and central government establishments do not lead the field in the matter of maintaining efficient combustion in plants owned by them within the Burgh. At least four such plants were found to contravene the provisions of the Clean Air Act during 1972 by emitting black smoke on several occasions. In each case action, similar to that taken with privately-owned plant, followed.

Three instances of dust nuisance arose throughout the year; one from a maltings, one from a building material manufacturer and the third from an alumina dust warehouse. In each instance a satisfactory solution was obtained.

On the domestic front, a major achievement of the department was the confirmation of the Kirkcaldy (Bridgeton) Smoke Control Area Order, 1972, by the Secretary of State. This order is due to come into force on 1st July, 1973. The area covered by the order can roughly be described as that area bounded by the Tiel Burn, the southernmost Burgh boundary and the High Water Mark. The following table lists the number of premises involved:

Total number of –	
Industrial Premises	9
Commercial Premises	8

Privately owned dwellings	22
Local Authority	284
Other Premises	3
Total Acreage	354

As the older local authority dwellings within the area were due for renovation the timing of the Order was quite judicious. Until the end of 1972, however, none of the occupiers of the private houses had taken advantage of the 70% grant offered by the department in order to enable them to convert existing coal-burning fires to any of the approved methods of heating, etc.

In December, 1972, initial preparations were made to survey the proposed second Smoke Control Area. This area is in the Chapel Village/Torbain area of the Burgh. It is the ultimate ambition of the Health Committee to cover the whole of the Burgh with Smoke Control Area Orders.

Twenty-eight boiler inspections and 28 observations of chimneys were carried out during 1972. In 2 instances of excessive smoke emission, warning letters were sent to the users of the offending chimneys. Twenty-six complaints were received from the public. These were all investigated and the appropriate action taken. Ninety-one visits were made to survey premises situated within proposed Smoke Control Areas. One prior approval form in respect of a proposed new coal-fired boiler plant was submitted during 1972.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION INVESTIGATIONS

The following summary of analysis is based on information supplied by Mr. R. S. Nicolson, F.R.I.C., Public Analyst for the Burgh, from samples collected in the Deposit Gauges and on Lead Peroxide Candles throughout 1972.

Deposit Gauge Samples

Site	Average daily rainfall in inches			Average daily deposit of solid matter in tons per sq. mile		
	1972	1971	1970	1972	1971	1970
1. Loughborough Road .	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.32	0.29	0.36
2. Denburn Yard . . .	0.06	0.05	0.07	0.41	0.35	0.33

Lead Peroxide Candles

Site	Average Sulphur Pollution expressed in mgm. of SO ₃ per 100 sq.cm. of Lead Dioxide surface per day							
	1972	1971	1970	1969	1968	1967	1966	1965
No. 1								
Loughborough Road . . . *	0.80	0.79	0.79	0.74	0.53	0.68	0.68	0.72

No. 2								
Denburn Yard	0.66	0.54	0.54	0.62	0.46	0.49	0.46	0.49
No. 3								
Beveridge Park	0.62	0.38	0.37	0.36	0.32	0.38	0.31	0.31
No. 4								
Town House .	0.68	0.59	0.59	0.63	0.52	0.53	0.58	0.61
Average . . .	0.68	0.57	0.57	0.59	0.47	0.52	0.51	0.53

It can be noted from the above tables that there has been an unfortunate increase in both the deposit of solid matter and sulphur pollution during 1972. This, in the current climate of thought on environmental pollution, is a disturbing situation, contrary to the national trend. Some improvement may be hoped for when the proposed new Smoke Control Areas are formed within the course of the next few years. It is also highly likely that the present spectrum of monitoring atmospheric pollutants will have to be extended to include pollutants such as carbon monoxide, hydrocarbons, aldehydes, oxides of nitrogen and sulphur, lead, and any other products of combustion, which, if dispersed into the atmosphere, may have a detrimental effect on the health of the public at large.

While the traditional offenders, the domestic fire and the larger industrial boiler continue to be a source of pollution, motor vehicle exhaust fumes are causing increasing concern and more sophisticated detection techniques may be required in order to determine the day-to-day level of such pollutants. Proposed E.E.C. Regulations are being drafted in order to combat this new menace.

18. Burial Grounds

Three local authority burial grounds, two church burial grounds, one of which has been closed for a number of years, and the old burial ground adjoining Ravenscraig Castle are all maintained in good condition by the Parks Department. The Kirkcaldy Old Parish Church yard is also maintained in good order by the Kirk Session. The Pathhead Feuars burial ground is somewhat overgrown but the long grass is scythed annually. The Corporation Crematorium at Dunnikier was operated without complaint, the number of cremations during the year totalled 1,910.

19. Rivers Pollution

The following table indicates the number of samples taken by the department during 1972.

Category	Total No. of samples	CHEMICAL		BACTERIOLOGICAL	
		Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory	Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory
Sea-Water . . .	6	2	—	—	4
Burn and Stream Water . . .	13	1	—	2	10
Sub-soil Water .	1	—	—	—	1
TOTALS . . .	20	3	—	2	15

In addition two samples of mussels were taken from the foreshore at different locations. Both specimens proved to be bacteriologically unfit for human consumption due to contamination by sewage in the sea water.

The sample of sub-soil water submitted for analysis was taken from a field drain which appeared to be the cause of noxious odours.

Examination revealed that the sample contained 'decomposing non-plant material'. Subsequent heavy rain appeared to have flushed away the offending matter as the odours were not noticed again after this. The problem did not recur during 1972.

Both chemical sea-water samples proved to be satisfactory which would lead one to believe that industrial effluent is not a serious problem in the burgh.

Unfortunately all four bacteriological samples of sea-water were found to contain gross excretal pollution. This must render the sea around the burgh unsuitable for bathing and demonstrate the urgent need of a sewage treatment plant.

The only chemical sample of stream water taken was from the Tiel Burn and this proved to be satisfactory. However, bacteriological samples taken from the Tiel Burn and the East Burn at various points over their length, were found to be unsatisfactory in the main. The samples taken, indicated that as the East Burn flows through the town towards the sea it changes in nature from 'water acceptable for agricultural purposes' to 'water grossly contaminated and a potential health hazard'. Much more investigation is required to determine the exact source of this contamination and the department is continuing its efforts in this direction.

Early in 1972 the report *Towards Cleaner Water* was issued by the Scottish Development Department. The accompanying map indicated that the area of the Forth which is affected by sewage outfalls from the Burgh is of 'fairly good quality'. Nevertheless there are no grounds for complacency here as there is still a long way to go before the sea-water around the burgh foreshore can be considered completely satisfactory.

The Council of course recognise this fact, and have engaged consultants to design a sewage disposal plant for the burgh, which will provide a standard of sewage effluent within the limits laid down by the Forth River Purification Board for tidal waters in the Forth Estuary.

20. Schools, Cinemas, Public Buildings and Dance Halls

Ninety-nine visits were made to schools, cinemas, public buildings and dance halls throughout 1972, of which total 41 were in connection with schools. Most defects found were attended to satisfactorily.

Twenty-six bacteriological samples of swimming pool water from schools were taken throughout the year, all of these proved satisfactory.

No bacteriological samples of drinking water were taken from schools throughout the year.

Fifty-seven visits were made to cinemas, public buildings and dance halls prior to annual licensing, conditions found were generally satisfactory.

21. Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

During 1972 a total of 607 inspections were made under the Act. All of these inspections were in the form of general inspections. Pressure of other work kept down the number of visits which possibly could have been made under this legislation.

In the course of the year 53 cancellations were recorded and 23 new premises were registered, bringing the present total to 607.

Throughout the year 75 plans were submitted showing new premises or alterations to existing premises. These plans were examined in order that the requirements of the Act be fully implemented.

Premises were generally satisfactory in all respects although the tendency for minor infringements to arise still exists, e.g. first aid provisions below the required standard, no OSR9 or OSR9B provided and/or displayed; however these and similar matters are usually attended to promptly following verbal instruction during the inspection.

A problem which does arise frequently is that of newly established businesses not registering with our authority until their presence is discovered by the inspectors. Either they are unaware of the legal requirements to register with the local authority or they choose to disregard this requirement until the fact that they are not registered is discovered.

During the year 14 accidents were notified. Of these 12 were accepted and coded and 2 did not apply under the Act. It was deemed necessary to visit two of the accidents reported. Of these, one accident was due to the carelessness of the injured person. In the other case recommendations were sent out to the firm concerned in order to minimise the risk of a similar accident. This entailed supplying protective foot-

wear to all staff connected with moving stock in an electrical wholesalers, and that night storage radiator bricks should not be stored above a height of approximately 3' 6". When the accident occurred a storeman was removing a packet of radiator bricks from the stock piled to a height of 7' when the packet burst, a brick fell onto his foot which was protected only by a soft casual shoe. As a result the employee had a toe completely severed.

The use of the communication media, and/or circulars to employers may help to instil the knowledge that there is a statutory necessity to notify accidents to the proper authority to ensure that all appropriate accidents are notified.

22. Cleansing

Refuse Collection Quarterly test weighings of domestic refuse from households in the burgh were virtually the same as the previous years. An increase of 14 tons during the spring weighings in March was countered by a reduction of 20 tons during the autumn weighings in September.

An increasing amount of bulky refuse continues to be uplifted weekly by special collection.

QUARTERLY WEIGHINGS						TONNAGE		
<i>One Week's Weighings</i>						1972	1971	1970
March	.	.	.	.	.	262	248	219
June	.	.	.	.	.	224	221	202
September	.	.	.	.	.	214	234	228
December	.	.	.	.	.	218	217	218

In November a pilot paper refuse sack scheme using wire mesh holders and 3½ cu.ft. paper refuse sacks was introduced. Replacing a twice weekly kerbside collection is a once weekly back door collection involving some 850 houses in Smeaton and Simpson Street/Grant Street local authority housing areas. These areas were selected because of the high number of 4 and 5 apartment houses, low percentage of suitable refuse receptacles, in one area a large number of dogs rummaging the bins on kerbside collection, and in the other a persistent history of dumping of ordinary domestic refuse on nearby waste ground.

This year four Shelvoke and Drewry 18/25 cu.yd. Fore and Aft Collection Vehicles – two of which were fitted with bulk bin lifting gear were taken out of service and replaced by two Eagle Compressload '5' refuse collection vehicles and two Glover, Webb and Liversidge 18/45 cu.yd. vehicles fitted with bulk bin lifting gear. In addition an Eagle Compressload '5' body was fitted in place of a Gibson continuous loader body on a B.M.C. chassis. Sales of Falkirk type refuse bins totalled 265 during the year.

Refuse Disposal It was estimated that about 13,800 tons of domestic and trade refuse was collected and deposited at Balbarton Tip during the year, while a further 5,153 tons reached the tip as builder's rubbish, trade refuse, street sweepings, gully tank contents, soil and demolition material. Tipping at present is principally confined to the first part of the new tip extension which was opened in the spring of 1971. Covering material is not in such short supply as it had been, as we are now digging into an area of an old tip which is probably at least forty years old and find it consists mainly of ash, soil and some old glass bottles and crockery.

The paper baling plant continues to operate satisfactorily. Towards the end of the year a reconditioned Hyster clamp truck was obtained to handle the bales of waste paper. Salvage sales for 1972 were as follows:

	<i>Tons</i>
Wastepaper	1,142
Baled Tins and Scrap Metal	13
	<hr/>
	1,155
	<hr/>

Street Cleansing The Johnston suction sweeper and the two Blaw Knox Pathmaster mechanical sweepers have now settled down to regular beats after some initial teething troubles. Unfortunately these machines require more maintenance than was originally estimated, the maintenance hours for the three machines totalling 1,660 hours or some 20% of their possible operational hours.

In order to meet the sweeping schedules laid down an additional Karrier suction sweeper machine was obtained in November. With the considerable reduction in manual beat sweepers, there are certain areas in the town where litter is in evidence particularly after the weekends. These areas are gradually being identified and steps taken to deal with the problem.

In this the second year of the weed control squad operating under the Parks Department, it can be said that weed growth in streets is now well controlled. The squad are now able to tackle some of the more serious weed control problems arising on many of cleared sites throughout the burgh.

Public Conveniences Vandalism in these buildings is on the increase, and the spray paint artists cause considerable disfigurement of both the interior and exterior of toilets. In two cases walls and doors were sprayed within a week or two of complete redecoration of the premises, necessitating repainting of the entire premises.

Introduction of a 5 day, 40 hour week for convenience attendants required a revision of shift systems and alterations in the staffing of the conveniences throughout the town.

The cost of the cleansing services including the maintenance of

public conveniences for the year ending 15th May, 1972 amounted to £212,592, after making an allowance for an income of £16,940 of which £11,975 came from salvage sales – mainly wastepaper.

23. Civic Amenities Act

Throughout the year there were a total of 55 intimations to owners of abandoned vehicles to have them removed.

Despite repeated publicity in the local papers, stating the arrangements which exist for removal of bulky refuse, the practice of dumping unwanted articles throughout the town continues. Enquiries usually reveal that no one has seen the culprits.

It is becoming obvious that any vacant piece of ground is not safe from these irresponsible persons who choose to spoil their environment by turning these rare remaining open spaces into unsightly piles of rubbish.

The authorities have been very patient with those persons who treat their environment as a rubbish dump, and it is now time to teach some of those offenders a salutary lesson by prosecution and fining up to the maximum of £100 which can be imposed for offences under the Litter Act and the even stiffer penalties which can now be imposed under the Dangerous Litter Act, 1972.

24. Sewers and Drains

Work commenced on the culverting of a section of the stream in Pannie Den which has been a source of nuisance for a number of years particularly due to rubbish dumping by the nearby householders, not only in the water course but also on the wooded slopes of the Den. Once the culvert is completed it is the intention to infill with demolition material and cover with soil to form a grass play area.

As was mentioned earlier in this report the Council have embarked on a sewage purification scheme, and the Burgh Engineer and the consultant engineers are actively engaged on the design stage of the new sewerage system and sewage purification works.

25. Caravan Sites

Work commenced this year on the construction of Kirkcaldy Town Council's Holiday Caravan site, Dunnikier Park. It is hoped that half of the 59 caravan berths will be available for use by June, 1973.

In November a meeting was held in Dunfermline of representatives from Dunfermline and Kirkcaldy Burghs along with Fife County Council to meet and discuss with Lord Birsay, Chairman of the Committee set up to deal with the problem of Scotland's Travelling People. The meeting discussed the problem of travelling people in the Fife Area and a decision was taken to try to establish suitable sites for these people in the County area.

26. Rag, Flock and other Filling Materials Regulations

There are no firms presently registered in terms of this Act.

27. Pharmacy and Poisons Acts and Orders

Authorised sellers of Part II Poisons numbered 17, covering 31 premises. One visit was made in connection with proper storage and labelling.

28. Pet Animals Act

Three applications were granted to keep a pet shop or deal in small livestock. All premises when inspected were found to be in good order and livestock kept under suitable conditions.

29. Riding Establishment Act

There are no known riding establishments within the Burgh.

30. Agricultural (Safety, Health and Welfare Provisions) Act

No statutory action was required in terms of this Act during 1972.

31. Fertiliser and Feeding Stuffs Act

Two samples of feeding stuffs and one sample of fertiliser conformed to the guarantee on analysis. Another sample of fertiliser, namely sulphate of potash was submitted by a keen amateur gardener who found that his tomato plants instead of thriving were dying off. By the time this sample was submitted several weeks had elapsed and none of the original stock in the shop was left. The sample on analysis was found to contain some 6% of sodium chlorate weed killer, hence the effect on the tomato plants. The cause of this contamination could not be established in the shop and no other complaints were received about this product.

32. Staff

One apprentice passed his final examination and was appointed to a vacancy which existed for an assistant sanitary inspector. There were no other staff changes during the year. I wish to record my thanks to the staff for the diligent manner in which they have carried out their duties throughout the year.

33. Acknowledgements

I wish to record my appreciation for the assistance given me by the Convener and members of the Health Committee in the discharge of my duties, and to thank my fellow officials and their staffs for their co-operation throughout the year.

